

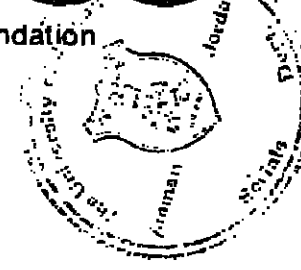
## U.S. launches Pershing-2 successfully

WASHINGTON (R) — The troubled Pershing-2 missile was launched successfully Friday and flew its full 1300-kilometre course, the U.S. army said. But it will not be known whether it met all operational goals until tracking data is assessed, the army stated. Army spokesman Maj. Jerry Henley said the first two stages performed normally in the test at Cape Canaveral, Florida, but re-entry assessment would take several days. The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation is to begin siting 108 Pershings and 464 Cruise missiles in Western Europe from December.

# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Arab Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز بوليتيكي يومية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية العربية "الراي"



## Jordan gets \$10m loan from OPEC

VIENNA (Petra) — The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) fund for international development decided to give loans and grants to seven developing countries in 1983 amounting to some \$70 million. A spokesman for the fund said agreements for the loans and grants were signed on Wednesday with each of Jordan, Pakistan, Burma, Malagasy, New Guinea, Honduras and Benin. He said Jordan will get a \$10 million loan to finance the construction of an energy station in the Aqaba Port. Most of these loans are given by the OPEC countries interest-free and with easy terms of repayment.

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## Arabic becomes official language at Security Council

AMMAN (Petra) — Arabic became an official language at the United Nations Security Council, after the council approved its use as of the beginning of 1983. Jordan's permanent U.N. delegate was the first to speak in Arabic as an official language at the Security Council meeting which discussed the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations peacekeeping force in Lebanon.

## Wazir leaves for Damascus

AMMAN (J.T.) — Khalil Al Wazir, also known as Abu Jihad, member of the Fatah central committee and deputy commander-in-chief of the Palestinian forces, left Amman for Damascus on Thursday. Abu Jihad will stay in Syria for several days after which he will go to the Bekaa Valley in Lebanon to inspect Palestinian forces there. He will also preside over the meeting of the Palestinian military council to discuss the latest military developments in the area.

## Bomb injures 2 in Beirut

BEIRUT (R) — Two people were injured Friday when a bomb exploded in a rubbish dump in a suburb of Beirut, security sources said. The explosion took place in an area formerly controlled by right-wing Christian militias when Beirut was divided between Christian, Muslim and Palestinian armed groups. Like most of the rest of capital and its suburbs, the area is now patrolled by the Lebanese regular army and police.

## 3,000 Soviet experts said to be in Ethiopia

BRUSSELS (R) — The Eritrean People's Liberation Front said Friday about 3,000 Soviet experts were in Ethiopia, many of them military personnel manning sophisticated weapons, planning war operations or doing maintenance work. Isayas Afewerki, the front's deputy secretary general, told a press conference that up to seven Soviet generals directed a major offensive by the Ethiopian army last year which, he said, was defeated by the front's popular army. The front said the Ethiopian army suffered 40,000 men killed, wounded or captured in the campaign and was unlikely to launch a new offensive in the near future.

## Turkey denies kidnapping Armenian leader

ANKARA (R) — A foreign ministry spokesman Friday described as lies and fabrication accusations by an Armenian political that Turkish secret agents had kidnapped one of its leaders in Beirut. The Tashnag Party, believed to be the largest of three Armenian parties in Lebanon, last week accused the Turkish government of kidnapping Abraham Achdjian, a member of the party's central committee, who disappeared on Dec. 29. In a protest rally in Beirut three days ago thousands of Armenians protested against Turkey and demanded a safe return for their leader.

## Hijacker killed by FBI agent

PORTLAND, Oregon (R) — A hijacker who claimed to have a bomb in a shoebox was shot dead by a Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) agent on board a U.S. airliner at Portland Airport Thursday night, an airport official said. None of the 35 passengers or crew of six was hurt. The hijacker, yet to be named, told the crew he had a bomb when the Northwest Airlines Boeing 727 was 100 kilometres north of Portland on a flight from Seattle. Authorities later said there were no explosives in the shoebox. An FBI spokesman had said earlier the hijacker wanted to go to Afghanistan, but the official said he had demanded the plane be refuelled in Portland, then fly to San Diego in southern California.

## PLO leader, King Hassan to discuss London visit

# Arafat, Milhem and Qawasmī in Morocco

MARRAKESH (R) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat arrived here Friday from Tunis at the head of a PLO delegation to confer with King Hassan of Morocco, Palestinian sources said.

Mr. Arafat arrived here accompanied by Fahd Al Qawasmī and Mohammad Milhem, former mayors of Hebron and Halhul on the West Bank, who were deported by the Israeli authorities and now live in Jordan, the sources said. The sources said the main topic at the meeting would be a compromise solution to the impasse over a proposed visit to London early next month by an Arab League mission. The London visit has been called off three times because of British objections to the inclusion of a high-ranking PLO representative on the mission, which will be led by King Hassan and includes six Arab foreign ministers. It is now scheduled to visit London on Feb. 7 and 8. According to diplomatic sources, a possible compromise could replace the official PLO delegate with one of the former West Bank mayors who is also a PLO sympathiser but not a high-ranking official of the organisation. Western diplomatic sources said Mr. Milhem's name had been accepted by the British government for meetings between the mission and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and Foreign Secretary Francis Pym.

The mission, set up by an Arab summit in Fez last September, is presenting a Middle East peace plan adopted by the summit to the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council. It has already visited Washington, Paris, Moscow and Peking. The plan would recognise Israel within its pre-1967 frontiers in return for the creation of an independent Palestinian state. British officials in Morocco said progress was made in intensive diplomatic contacts designed to overcome Mrs. Thatcher's objections to receiving a PLO official unless the organisation publicly denounced all forms of terrorism. This requirement was judged "offensive" by the mission. Mr. Arafat arrived here after conferring in Tunis with British Foreign Office official Stephen Egerton and after King Hassan received British Ambassador John Cambridge.

## Falangists hold 11 people for 'acts of terrorism'

BEIRUT (R) — A Lebanese Christian leader said Friday that Christian militia forces were holding 11 people in custody, all of them accused of acts of violence and none of them kidnapped. Pierre Gemayel, founder of the Kataeb Party and father of Lebanese President Amin Gemayel, was quoted by a rightist radio station as saying that the militia had been accused of holding prisoner hundreds of people they had kidnapped. Mr. Gemayel said: "I announce openly that the Kataeb Party and the Lebanese forces (the main Christian militia) are not holding any kidnapped people." He said he had made a tour of inspection and had found 11 people being held prisoner. "These are not people who have been kidnapped, they are accused of committing acts of terrorism and sabotage," Mr. Gemayel said. The Christian leader said the government had been asked to take custody of the prisoners and complete their interrogation. Prime Minister Shafiq Al Wazzan asked Lebanon's justice authorities this week to speed up the interrogation of hundreds of people being held by the security forces and to find out the fate of many others said to have been kidnapped by armed groups. A group of Muslim women recently gave Mr. Wazzan a list of more than 1,300 missing men, some of them not seen since the Sept. 16-18 massacre of Lebanese and Palestinian civilians in the Sabra and Shatila areas of Beirut. Survivors of the massacres, committed by rightist Lebanese militiamen, said many of their menfolk were kidnapped at the time. After the massacre, Lebanese army arrested more than 1,000 people, many of them Palestinians, as it reasserted government control over Beirut. Relatives have complained they have not been able to find out exactly who the army is holding. Western diplomats say many of the detainees have been released but others are still being held.

## Genscher to discuss missiles in Washington

BONN (R) — West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher will visit Washington next week in the latest of a series of intensive consultations on the issue of nuclear arms deployment in Europe. Officials said Mr. Genscher would discuss nuclear arms during talks with President Reagan, Vice-President George Bush and Secretary of State George Shultz. The trip comes amid increasing signs that West Germany's Social Democratic (SPD) opposition is gaining support in the campaign for the March 6 general election by demanding that the U.S. makes compromises in Geneva talks with the Soviet Union on curbing medium-range missiles in Europe.

## Soviets warn NATO of measures against missiles

EAST BERLIN (R) — Soviet bloc states Friday issued a new warning of counter-measures if NATO goes ahead with deployment in West Europe of new nuclear missiles. A joint communique issued after a visit to East Berlin by Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko appealed to West Germany, where he had talks earlier this week, to reconsider its acceptance of the Cruise and Pershing II missiles. "If these plans are carried out the Socialist countries will be forced to take counter-measures to secure their own security," the communique, issued by the official East German news agency ADN, said. Mr. Gromyko briefed East German leader Erich Honecker on his talks in Bonn. Both appealed to West Germany to weigh up its acceptance of the rockets and said Bonn "should contribute to a solution of this problem which damages no one's security interests and leads to a lessening of military confrontation on this continent," ADN said. Mr. Honecker issued a clear warning to Bonn that relations could suffer when he met the late Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev in the Crimea last summer. In Bonn, Mr. Gromyko failed to shift Chancellor Helmut Kohl from his backing for the NATO missile plan but diplomats said there was an unexpectedly frank and detailed discussion on ways of cutting the number of Soviet medium-range rockets targeted on Western Europe. Mr. Gromyko categorically rejected the West's demand that Moscow scrap all its estimated 600 medium-range missiles in return for abandonment of the NATO plans. The East Berlin communique accused Washington of delaying tactics in the Soviet-U.S. talks on reducing nuclear weapons in Europe. It repeated the Warsaw Pact's appeal to NATO earlier this month to sign a mutual non-aggression treaty and agreement against the use of force.

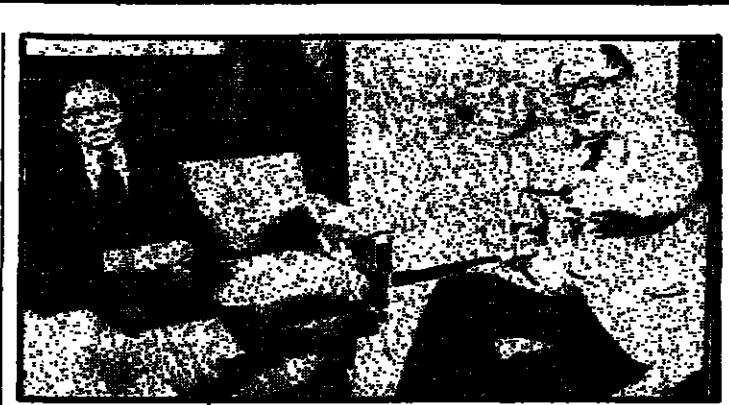
## U.S. calls on Israel to avoid confrontation with Marines

WASHINGTON (R) — The State Department Friday called on Israel to halt "irresponsible" confrontations between U.S. Marines and Israeli soldiers in Lebanon. In the latest incident, an Israeli jeep "outraged" a Marine when an Israeli patrol was refused permission to cross an American-controlled checkpoint, the Pentagon said. Officials said there had been several instances recently of Israeli troops trying to push past Marines guarding areas controlled by the Multinational Force (MNF) in Lebanon. The incident was increasingly concerned about the recurring attempts which he said carried risks for both the Americans and Israelis. The incidents, he said, "Violate the spirit of cooperation required of all parties if the MNF is to carry out its peacekeeping role successfully."

"We have been in contact with the Israelis and are impressing on them that such irresponsible incidents cannot recur," Mr. Hughes told reporters. The Pentagon said earlier the latest incident "was not a serious matter."

## Tanzania arrests coup suspects

DAR ES SALAAM (R) — Tanzanian authorities Friday said they had arrested several soldiers and civilians after discovering what they described as a conspiracy early this month to cause a disturbance. Inspector General of Police Solomon Liani said in a statement that "the conspiracy was uncovered by the Tanzanian People's Defence Forces who notified the government to take action." No further details were given except that the Tanzanian People's Defence Forces were not involved as such despite the fact that some soldiers were under arrest. When reading Mr. Liani's statement, officials said legal action would be taken against those accused of conspiracy. (The statement follows reports in Nairobi, the capital of neighbouring Kenya, of trouble in Tanzania.) Diplomatic sources in Nairobi said they had received reports of an incident around New Year's Day in a north Tanzania garrison which may have been directed against that country's authorities. Earlier Friday, Tanzanian authorities scoffed at reports which had circulated in Nairobi about a coup in Tanzania.



## Habib arrives in Beirut

BEIRUT (Agencies) — U.S. special envoy Philip Habib arrived in Beirut Friday after a week of talks in Israel on the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon. The U.S. embassy said Mr. Habib was accompanied by Morris Draper, chief U.S. delegate at current talks between Lebanon, Israel and the United States. Mr. Habib met Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin earlier Friday after a week of talks with senior Israeli officials on the withdrawal of foreign troops from Lebanon. He arrived in the Middle East last week to try to speed up the negotiations between Israel and Lebanon. Israel's demand for special security arrangements in southern Lebanon, including early warning stations manned by Israeli soldiers as a condition for withdrawal, was discussed during meetings this week with Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir. Israel Radio said Friday Mr. Habib had told Mr. Shamir this was unacceptable to the Lebanese and would not be supported by the United States. On Thursday U.S. mediators reported progress at Israeli-Lebanese negotiations Jan. 20 on a withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon and on relations between the two countries. A joint statement issued after the eighth round of talks in Kiryat Shmona, Israel, reported "good progress" toward resolving the Lebanon crisis. Conference sources said Israel expanded on its demand to build early warning stations, but the Lebanese negotiators rejected the idea as an infringement on Lebanon's sovereignty. The negotiators created new committees to discuss the withdrawal, the future relations between Israel and Lebanon, security arrangements in South Lebanon and possible guarantees of the final agreement, the joint communique said.

## Italy's industrial dispute shows signs of subsidiary

ROME (R) — Italy's industrial employers and main trade union federations, opening a new round of talks, said Friday they were increasingly confident of agreeing to hold down wage costs. Prime Minister Amintore Fanfani, encouraged by signs that the gap was narrowing between the employers' organisation Confindustria and the union confederation CGIL-CISL-UIL, waived a deadline of midnight Thursday night which he had set for a settlement. The two sides have been deeply divided over the present sliding scale system of wage indexation which Confindustria wants reformed before it will renegotiate three-year wage contracts. Confindustria has ordered its members to stop paying flat-rate wage rises linked to inflation next month and to revert to an earlier, far less comprehensive system, unless the unions accept a compromise. A spokesman for the Catholic-inspired CISL federation said Friday the unions would accept a cut of around 15 per cent in the automatic inflation-linked wage increases in return for a reduction in the sliding scale. But Confindustria's chief economist, Isidoro Mariani, said the latest union offer was still well short of the 30 per cent cut in the sliding scale sought by employers. Most employers would be reluctant to accept a reduction in the working week which he said averaged 40 hours in most sectors of industry, though he did not rule out the possibility of compromise on this issue.

## Vatican announces details of Holy Year

VATICAN CITY (R) — Pope John Paul announced details Friday of a Holy Year starting next March to mark the 1,500th anniversary of Christ's death. But Vatican officials denied suggestions that the event had been planned as a "financial jubilee." In a Papal Bull issued the Pope said he would open the holy door in St. Peter's Basilica on March 25 to inaugurate the Holy Year, which he first proclaimed last November. The Pope set out theological reasons in the decree for celebrating the anniversary and explained to the world's 700 million Roman Catholics what he expected of them. The pontiff will inaugurate the year by knocking with a golden hammer on a set of bronze doors which have been locked since the last Holy Year in 1975. The Papal Bull "Aperite Portas Redemptori" (open the doors to the redeemer) said the year would extend until Easter Sunday of next year and would celebrate the Christian doctrine that Christ's death and resurrection redeemed the world from sin. At a news conference Vatican officials denied suggestions that the Pope had announced the exceptional jubilee in order to attract revenue to the holy see. Italian Archbishop Mario Schierano, chairman of the Holy Year Central Committee, said small amounts would be spent on activities to highlight the spiritual character of the year, and a programme of events would soon be published. But revenue would be negligible and "the year will not be a financial jubilee," he stated. In his Papal Bull the pontiff noted that in 1933 his predecessor Pope Pius XI had proclaimed the

## King starts visit to 4 Gulf countries today

AMMAN (Petra) — The Royal Court announced on Friday that His Majesty King Hussein will resume on Saturday his Arab tour by visiting Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar and Oman. King Hussein last week visited Iraq and Saudi Arabia. The King will be accompanied by a high-level delegation on the new Arab tour.

## Qasem leaves for Morocco

AMMAN (Petra) — Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem left Amman for Morocco Thursday to participate in the meetings of the Jerusalem Committee, and the committee of seven stemming from the Fez summit conference which began there on Friday. In a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Mr. Qasem said that he will explain to the conference the repercussions of the continuous Israeli measures against the holy city to change its Arab and Islamic character. Mr. Qasem said that Jordan will request the committee to take decisive action to save Jerusalem from Israel's designs to Judaize and annex the city and to support the steadfastness of the city's Arab inhabitants through the immediate payment of all financial obligations to the Jerusalem fund. Mr. Qasem added that the committee of seven will assess its previous activities and the results of its visits to the United States, the Soviet Union, France and the People's Republic of China. "The Jordanian delegation will brief the committee on the results of the mission headed by His Majesty King Hussein to Paris, Moscow and Peking and will also brief on the positive steps taken by the Jordanian and Palestinian sides to liberate the Arab lands and save the steadfast kinship from the Israeli occupation," he said.

## Ghandour meets Soviet team

AMMAN (Petra) — Alia President Ali Ghandour had talks on Friday with the Soviet civil aviation trade union delegation headed by Ivan Kabakov. They discussed ways of strengthening and developing relations between Soviet and Jordanian air transport workers. The guest delegation also visited workers health clinics and was briefed by the chairman of their board of directors on the services rendered. The delegation also visited other health institutions, the Jordan Valley area, the Dead Sea and the Martyrs Monument.

## Egypt to ask U.S. for more military aid

CAIRO (R) — Egypt will shortly ask the United States to step up its military aid by more than a third, a leading newspaper reported Friday. The semi-official Al Ahram, in an article written by its editor, said that during President Hosni Mubarak's forthcoming visit to Washington, Egypt planned to request an increase of \$450 million to the \$1.3 billion it now receives. Mr. Mubarak flies to Washington on Wednesday for talks with President Reagan and top officials expected to centre on Middle East problems and ways of cementing the already close relations between the two countries. Al Ahram added: "It would only be natural for Egypt to request that 50 per cent of the total U.S. military aid be converted to grants." Although the short-term strategies of Israel and the U.S. in the region did not agree, the article said, "they meet in greater goals—the continuity of Israel's military threat and a persistent military escalation in the area." "They (the two strategies) push the Arabs further to the United States, seeking protection from Israel..." The newspaper editor said the Soviet Union's inability to defend its allies in the Middle East during the Lebanese war made the U.S. the only option for the Arabs in seeking support for their efforts to reach a Middle East settlement. "The U.S. is the only alternative but under America's conditions and Israel's military superiority," the newspaper added.

## Israeli Labour Party split over settlement drive

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel's opposition Labour Party is deeply split over how to react to the government's accelerated settlement drive on the occupied West Bank. The rift emerged in public recently when it became known that construction companies owned by the Histadrut Trade Union Federation were building in new West Bank settlements. The Labour Party has absolute control of the Histadrut and its platform calls for a territorial compromise with Jordan on the West Bank under which Israel would withdraw from large sections of territory it has occupied since 1967. An official on the left of the party, who did not want to be identified, said: "We are being dragged along by the government into helping build settlements in direct contradiction of our own policy and the party leadership is not raising a hand to stop it." Since Prime Minister Menachem Begin came to power in 1977 about 25,000 Jews have moved to the West Bank. The government hopes the figure will double in the next few months with the opening of large new settlements. Labour emerged from the country's last elections in July, 1981 as the largest party in the Knesset (parliament). It has 50 seats, four more than the ruling Likud Party. But party leader Shimon Peres was unable to form a coalition because religious parties, which hold the parliamentary balance of power, preferred an alliance with Mr. Begin. Since the election, Mr. Peres has fared badly in public opinion polls. Recent polls forecast a comfortable majority for Mr. Begin if new elections were held. Mr. Peres and his chief rival in the Labour Party, former Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, were present at a recent stormy party debate on building activities on the West Bank but did not speak. Construction company heads said they had no choice but to build on the West Bank because there was little building going on inside Israel. "Government ministries do not grant contracts to those who do not take part in work in the (occupied) territories," said party veteran Yitzhak Ben-Aharon, a former Histadrut general secretary. "Sometimes the government acts brutally and sometimes in quiet revenge. If we don't build there, and remember the government is hardly investing in construction within the Green Line (Israel's pre-1967 borders), then the Histadrut would be taken off the agenda," he added. Party leftists challenged this view. "The party should not be dictated to by threats," said Nafatali Blumenthal, a Knesset member and chairman of Koor, Israel's biggest industrial concern, which is owned by Histadrut. "If we surrender now, we will have surrendered all along the line. We are causing a tragedy by building in the middle of densely-populated Arab areas. We could survive without building there," he said. The party eventually approved Histadrut companies building on the West Bank but decided against allowing labour-owned companies setting up factories there. "The workers would not have supported us in a boycott on West Bank construction," Mr. Ben-Aharon said. "The political struggle cannot be waged with boycotts by economic institutions."



# THE NEWS



Fils Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan (centre) meets Thursday members of the Soviet cultural delegation. (Petra photo)

## Hassan, Abu Nowar hold talks with Soviet cultural delegation

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan received at his office on Thursday, a delegation representing the federation of Soviet societies for friendship and cultural relations with foreign countries, headed by Soviet-Jordanian Friendship Society President Alexei Safanov.

Crown Prince Hassan discussed with the Soviet delegation the situation in the Middle East and the friendly relations between Jordan and the Soviet Union, which are based on common understanding, particularly

regarding the Arab cause and Jordan's consistent stand towards the Middle East issue and the rights of the Palestinians.

Mr. Safanov praised the friendship between the two countries, which have been boosted by His Majesty King Hussein.

The meeting was attended by the Soviet ambassador in Amman, the Jordanian ambassador in Moscow and the president and members of the Jordanian-Soviet Friendship Society.

Youth and Culture Minister Ma'an Abu Nowar also received the delegation on Thursday and discussed with its chairman and members ways of strengthening cultural relations between the two countries. Mr. Safanov praised Jordan's cultural achievements and bilateral ties in this sphere.

Moreover, offender saw him putting all the money in one big bag under the counter. M.M. entered the shop and enquired about the exchange rates of the Iraqi Dinar for that day. On receiving an answer, he took out a 100-fils piece from his pocket and asked the changer to give some in local currency for it, which the money exchanger completely neglected.

The alleged immediately produced a flick knife, and demanded money from the money-exchanger. The latter countered by seizing the flick knife.

The fight attracted passers-by, and the police, who rushed into the shop and arrested the would-be robber, who admitted his attempted robbery at once.

## Aqaba cycle race successful

AQABA (Petra) — The third bicycle race to be organised by the Jordanian Bicycle Federation took place Friday, with the Governor of Ma'an Turki Al Hindawi in attendance. The race, which is designed for under 18 year olds and was founded under the auspices of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, started from the Aqaba tourist hotel at 1.00 p.m.

Well over 60 contestants, from various parts of the country, participated in the 100-kilometre race. The course took the contestants towards the airport and then out to the Ghor Al Safi road.

At the end of the race, Governor Hindawi presented the winners with an award. Amateur rider Samir Nizar, who covered the distance in 203 minutes, won the cup donated by Crown Prince Hassan. Mu'ib Al Fa'ouri was second, with Ziyad Ali Al Dmur in third position.

## Jordan leads Third World in international medical exam

By Hisham Abu Ajamleh  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordan ranked first among the Third World countries that took part last July in the international medical examination, administered by the Educational Commission for Foreign

Medical Graduates (ECFMG).

A delegation from the ECFMG, which is based in Philadelphia U.S.A., tours around the world twice a year to conduct the examination.

The exam is directed at medical undergraduate and postgraduate students at university level.

The foreign medical students who pass the examination are entitled to obtain a visa for the U.S.A. to continue their higher studies at any university they wish to choose. Last July about 14,438 students from 125 medical colleges in various countries sat the examination, with the pass rate standing at 34 per cent.

Among those taking the examination were 38 students from the faculty of medicine at the University of Jordan. The success rate of the Jordanian group was 79 per cent.

## THE YUGOSLAV FILM WEEK

The Embassy of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia cordially invite all Yugoslav citizens and Jordanians who speak one of the Yugoslav languages to attend the Yugoslav FILM WEEK which will take place from Jan. 22nd - 25th, at 7 p.m. at the hall of Amman Chamber of Industry - Jabal Amman.

## Noor chairs architectural meeting

By Afifah A. Kaloti  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — We should conserve our architectural and environmental heritage, preserve old buildings of Jordanian historic significance and establish a distinguished character in modern architecture, Her Majesty Queen Noor said Thursday.

Queen Noor was speaking at a meeting of the Royal Commission for the Conservation of Architectural Heritage at the Royal Court.

Queen Noor said Jordanians, being proud of their history and traditions, should preserve historic and archaeological sites and old buildings related to the history and heritage of Jordan.

New buildings to be constructed in Jordan, Queen Noor said, should follow a special pattern in harmony with the Islamic and Arab environment, and hence should beautify our cities, towns and villages.

The meeting, headed by Her Majesty Queen Noor, discussed Thursday the draft law of the Royal Commission of Architectural Heritage.

The main goal of the commission is to act in an advisory capacity to protect the architectural and environmental heritage, to attract attention to Arab and



Her Majesty Queen Noor (centre) speaks Thursday at a meeting of the Royal Commission for the Conservation of Architectural Heritage at the Royal Court.

Islamic architectural and engineering studies, to raise the standard of modern architecture, to create an awareness of the Jordanian architectural heritage, to seek a closer cooperation and coordination among the schools of architecture in the Arab World, and to preserve historic buildings in Jordan.

The meeting also discussed the commission's responsibilities, and decided to form two committees; one to deal with old buildings and the other to concentrate on the new. The two committees will coordinate their activities in order to further the commission's

polices. The meeting of the commission was attended by the Minister of Public Works Awni Al Masri, the Minister of Tourism and Antiquities Ma'an Abu Nowar, the Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and Environment Hassan Al Momani.

The meeting was also attended by the President of the University of Jordan Abdul Salam Majali, the President of Yarmouk University Adnan Badran, the President of the Engineers Association Laith Shubailat, Acting Mayor Ismail Arnouti and four engineers of the private sector.

## Kaddouri back in Amman

AMMAN (Petra) — Secretary-General of the Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) Fakhri Kaddouri returned to Amman Thursday after participating in a meeting with seven organisations involved in joint economic projects held in Kuwait between Jan. 15 and Jan. 17. He also attended an inter-governmental meeting of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) held in Riyadh on Jan. 17 and 18.

In a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Dr. Kaddouri said the seven Arab organisations prepared a working paper describing the projects.

## Jordanian Red Crescent chief, representatives off to Manama

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation representing the National Committee of the Jordanian Red Crescent (NCJRC), headed by NCJRC Chairman Ahmad Abu Qurah, left Amman Thursday for Manama. It will take part in the 14th Conference of Arab Red Crescent and Red Cross Committees due to start Sunday.

Dr. Abu Qurah said the conference will discuss whether to propose that Arabic be used as an international language by the Red Cross. The conference will also talk about the prospects for holding training courses in the Arab World, and will debate proposed

constitutional amendments to be submitted by the association's member committees.

The conference will also discuss developing Red Cross and Red Crescent national committees according to a regional plan prepared by the association, said Dr. Abu Qurah. To this end members of Arab national committees will be sent to Yugoslavia where that country's Red Cross will conduct a training programme. Dr. Abu Qurah pointed out that the three-day conference meetings will also consider offering aid to the Palestinian Red Cross, and the Lebanese Red Crescent.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Prime minister meets Walid Junblatt

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Mudar Badran received at his office Thursday the President of the Lebanese Nationalist Progressive Socialist Party Walid Junblatt. During the visit, the prime minister affirmed to Mr. Junblatt that Jordan supports the Lebanese people in their endeavours to protect their independence and territorial integrity and to spread the sovereignty of the central government to all parts of Lebanon.

### North Yemeni minister arrives in Amman

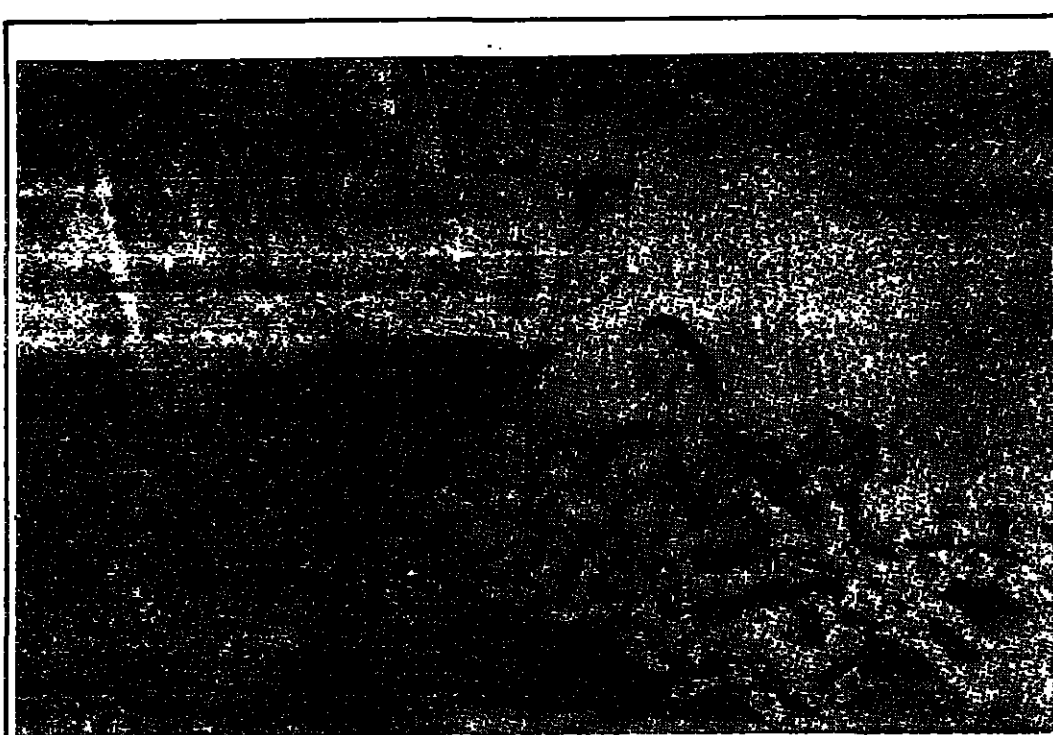
RAMTHA (Petra) — North Yemeni Minister of Municipal and Housing Affairs Mohammad Jad'an arrived in Amman Friday for a four-day visit to Jordan. The Yemeni minister told the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, on his arrival in Ramtha that, during his visit, he will have talks with his Jordanian counterpart Hassan Al Momani. In particular they will discuss matters related to housing and reconstruction, and on ways to promote development projects in North Yemen. Jad'an said that he wanted to familiarise himself with the Jordanian experience in the housing field, and wanted to discuss the question of the exchange of expertise and personnel between the two countries.

### Police arrest quack doctor in Jordan

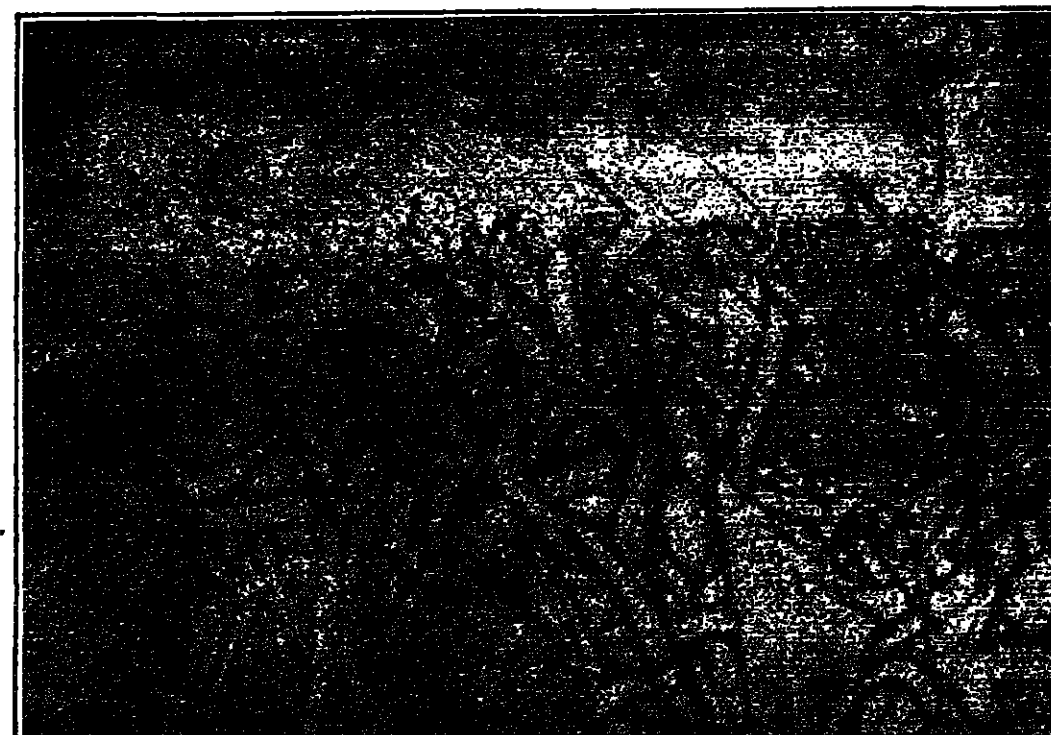
AMMAN (Petra) — Amman police have arrested a person for impersonating a doctor and treating Egyptian workers in Jordan. The 30-year defendant, who was born in Cairo, admitted that he had stolen medical equipment from two clinics in King Talal Street, and was intending to steal medical equipment from other clinics to practise the profession. During interrogation, he told the police that he was obsessed by the idea of becoming a doctor, but was disappointed because of his father's refusal to send him to medical school, while covering the expenses of his cousin who was training to be a doctor.

### Commerce seminar to begin Saturday

AMMAN (Petra) — A seminar on the standardisation of documentary credits will be held at the Federation of the Jordanian Chambers of Commerce (FJCC) Saturday. The seminar is being organised by the FJCC national committee in cooperation with the International Chamber of Commerce. Some 35 managers of banks and financial enterprises will participate in the seminar. Prof. Bernard Wheble, an internationally known banking figure, will address the seminar. The FJCC national committee is a member of the International Chamber of Commerce. The FJCC was established in 1975 with 60 financial, commercial and industrial enterprises as members. The function of the committee is to articulate Jordan's opinion on international trade. To this end, the committee has participated in a number of international conferences and seminars on trade.



Adnan Yahya's twisted, tortured figures



A painting by Ibrahim Al Najjar

## Jordanian artists' sombre work reflects new layers of maturity

By Meg Abu Hamdan  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Whatever one's feelings about the paintings by the five Jordanian artists, in the exhibition entitled "Jordanian '83" at the French Cultural Centre this week, one has to admire these works and their creators for several reasons.

### ART REVIEW

Firstly, for their intensity. The link existing between the disparate, figurative styles of these artists is an ability to pack emotion into every square inch of the canvas.

By being exhibited together, they succeed in projecting their message, albeit an unrelentingly sombre one, more powerfully than they could if displayed on an individual basis. Since this is their main aim, the exhibition should be considered a success.

Secondly one is immediately

impressed by these artists' imagination. With great ingenuity, they have each devised their own complex symbolism which is sometimes crude, but often subtle. Finally one has to acknowledge these artists' dedication and industry. All the work on show, with the exception of one or two pieces, is new, and this despite the fact that

not only do they all work full-time but have all exhibited in Amman during the previous year.

For some of the artists this assiduity has paid off. The best example is Mohammed Abu Zreik who, now tackling larger canvases, has become technically more confident. Deriving much of his inspiration from the surrealism of Mag-

ritte, Zreik is able to convey his ideas—the two dimensional sea whose edges slip over along its curved horizon, the sky that splits open like old wallpaper—more convincingly. The artist's colours, however, are still rather raw and perhaps further study of the work of the surrealist masters would help him increase their subtlety.

### Sardonic humour

The work of Adnan Yahya, though always good, has also undergone change. There are touches of sardonic humour in his now distinctive pen and ink drawings of terrible human suffering and, like a good cartoon, they leave an indelible image on the mind making his work cleverly effective.

The grotesque ugliness of the tormentors with their coarse features, gross and exaggerated, remain the same. But to win more sympathy for the oppressed masses, Yahya has turned them into individuals.

Their faces, instead of being caricatures of suffering, have become the portraits of the boys one sees in the streets—their expressions alive and mobile, both afraid and defiant. His processed people, however still bear vacant, numbed expressions as different from each other as Andy Warhol's cans of tomato soup.

It is two years since Ibrahim Al Najjar Abu Rubb held his solo exhibit at the French Cultural Centre, and during that time his work, like Yahya's, has perceptively changed. The writhing, mummified figures have acquired red aggressive eyes that glint malevolently through the encompassing bandages.

Combined with the barbarous array of spikes that issue out of the common mass, Abu Rubb's figures now assume the appearance of an army of evil insects. The colours the artist uses for the flat

brown earth that stretches away to the distant horizon and for the empty blue sky have over the years become harsher, and this is partly why the artist's watercolours (some of which are studies for his larger oils) and pencil sketches are more attractive.

Although the tones are similar, he achieves in these smaller pieces not only more pleasing, softer and subtler shades, there is too, a loose spontaneity in his confident line, both of which are testaments to his maturity.

More new work comes from Ishaq Nahleh. Using a resin, he moulds his figures and forms onto the canvases so that they stand out in pale relief against the transparent backgrounds of subdued blues, yellows and ochres. The spreadeagled, Da Vinci like poses of the figures, their sinewy limbs and the curling twisting forms out of which they rise, form interesting and intricate compositions.

Mohammad Issa is the last of the five artists and one who is perhaps better known for his smooth, elongated wooden sculptures. In his oils, he is, like Abu Zreik, heavily influenced by surrealism, perhaps because it is a figurative style in which they can give full rein to the imagination.

Carving organic forms fill Issa's canvases, but his best piece is one in which their smoothness is contrasted with the rough textured surfaces of the falling rocks which hurl down the rugged mountainside amidst the rising dust.

The exhibition runs until Jan. 23.

Mohammad Issa shows the influence of surrealism

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By Brian Mooney  
Reader

# Ghost of Madrid is returning to haunt Spain

MADRID — More than 11 years after its presses were silenced by dictator Francisco Franco, the ghost of the newspaper Madrid is returning to haunt democratic Spain.

A battle to resurrect the evening paper that schooled many of today's leading Spanish journalists enters a decisive stage next week when the supreme court is due to rule on a \$29-million claim for compensation.

The case has potentially wide repercussions and threatens to be as stormy as the process that led to the closure of the newspaper amid an international outcry on Nov. 25, 1971.

The compensation is being sought by Madrid's former direc-

tor, Rafael Calvo Serer, on the basis of a court ruling, in 1976, that the closure was illegal.

He has itemised damages totaling 3,644 million pesetas (\$29 million) for material and moral losses and says he will pursue the case to the higher constitutional court if necessary. "We will win and we will publish again," he says.

But not all the journalists who once worked for Madrid share his optimism, and some are threatening to sue Mr. Calvo Serer, asserting that he has no title to a newspaper which they say became a co-operative in its battle to survive under Franco.

"Calvo Serer has forgotten all

the undertakings made to those who worked with him," Madrid's former chief news editor Miguel Angel Aguilar said.

Mr. Aguilar, now the top political reporter for one of Spain's main dailies, said a journalists' association and workers' committee were set up to safeguard the interests of Madrid and take responsibility for it if reopened.

"There were specific commitments to share out any future compensations. But Mr. Calvo Serer is ignoring them now that the time has come," Mr. Aguilar said.

He said former Madrid journalists would take steps to prevent Mr. Calvo Serer alone cashing in

on the supreme court ruling. "There are enough of us in top positions to make the reappearance of Madrid impossible and we will sue if need be, not for the money but for the honour," he said.

Other former colleagues expressed similar views.

Mr. Calvo Serer, a 66-year-old author and philosophy professor, brushed aside the accusations and said there was no legal proof the former workers had any title to the newspaper. "Let them prove it," he said.

Mr. Calvo Serer, a leading member of the Catholic lay association, Opus Dei, also dismisses warnings by ex-Madrid

journalists that there is no room for a new daily newspaper.

"One of the reasons that we have asked for so much money is to ensure that we have enough to launch a good newspaper that can survive in the present economic climate," he said.

He forecast that many newspapers publishing in Spain today — there are nine dailies alone in the capital — would disappear in the next year or so.

In its heyday under Franco, Madrid was one of the most popular and widely read newspapers in Spain. Ironically if it returned today it would still be in opposition, but this time to the Socialists.

Madrid staked out an independent line from the Franco dictatorship, largely under the influence of Opus Dei, in the late sixties and inevitably ran into trouble with the censors.

The authorities shut the paper down for four months in 1968 for an article entitled "Retire in time: No to Gen. De Gaulle" that was interpreted as an oblique attack on Franco.

The net gradually tightened with further fines and legal proceedings until the paper was definitively closed in 1971. Efforts to reopen it continued for several years but in 1973 the premises were demolished and

sold off to developers.

Mr. Calvo Serer, who went into voluntary exile, was later sentenced to seven years in jail on an allegation of defaming the state in an article in the Paris daily Le Monde in which he denounced the muzzling of Madrid.

Lawyers who continued to challenge the closure on Mr. Calvo Serer's behalf had to wait until a year after Franco died for a favourable verdict.

This was in Oct. 1976, when the supreme court ruled that Franco's government acted illegally in shutting the paper and that the state was liable.

Since then, Mr. Calvo Serer's

lawyers have waged a battle in and out of court to obtain compensation from the government.

Unless his lawyers reach private settlement with the state attorney, the supreme court will be expected to fix a sum at the hearing on Jan. 20.

Few people expect Mr. Calvo Serer to obtain anything like the amount he is demanding but one of Madrid's former editors, Antonio Fontan, said he was sure compensation would be enough to get the newspaper back onto the streets.

Mr. Fontan recalls his five-year editorship, from 1966 until the closure, with pride, listing the achievements of the many distinguished journalists who worked under him and now dominate the profession. "Madrid was a unique creation," he said.

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## GUEST COMMENTARY Looking for excuses

WITH Lebanon and Israel agreeing on an agenda for the current talks regarding the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Lebanon, it would not be too surprising if Israel undertakes a new military adventure to sabotage the negotiations.

Israel is in control of much of Lebanon and has troops stationed on many strategic heights and positions which bring even Damascus within artillery range. At the same time, it has forcibly opened the borders with Lebanon and inundated the country with its own goods and products which had been banned before the invasion of last year.

Unless it is certain of getting everything it wants in the country through the talks, Israel is bound to block any attempt at a peaceful settlement and the restoration of full Lebanese sovereignty. It is already thinking loudly of launching a large-scale attack deep into Syria on the pretext of knocking out the new Soviet-supplied SAM-5 missiles that Syria has recently erected after the debacle of last year when its older missiles were destroyed easily by

U.S.-supplied aircraft. The new generation of missiles is said to be more effective as it can also hit aircraft while still flying inside Israel on the way to them.

So Israel wants to experiment with some of the latest anti-missile American techniques to destroy them. Then the Soviet Union will give Syria more advanced anti-aircraft systems to try on U.S.-made aircraft and so on. But the more pressing motivation for an attack is Israel's desire to perpetuate its military, economic and political presence in Lebanon which is only a bomb throw away from Damascus. It may be said that such an attack is either unlikely or far-fetched in view of the American participation in the current talks as an active partner or honest broker wishing to bring about a peaceful solution in the area.

It may be so. But if the Americans want such possibilities to remain far-fetched, they should not supply Israel with the means to conduct such military adventures on this scale.

— Arab News, Jeddah

## JORDAN'S ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

### Al Ra'i: Israeli opposition to Begin encourages the PLO

The recent meeting held in Tunisia between PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and a number of PLO members, and an Israeli delegation representing "The Israeli Council for Peace", effectively, means that the Council and those it represents have recognised the PLO as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. It also indicates that they do not approve of the extremist approach of the Israeli leadership in relation to the PLO, and feel that the search for a just and durable peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict should be speeded up. This meeting alone has refuted the Begin government's contention that the Israeli people unanimously reject the idea of recognising the PLO and the setting up of a Palestinian state. Retired General Metlicchio Peled, who took part in the Tunisia talks, stated that the meeting was not the

first of its kind, and that other meetings had preceded it. He added that the Israeli Council for Peace approves of the establishment of a Palestinian state.

It is still too early to evaluate the effect of such peace efforts made by such Israeli groups, but what is certain is that the Begin government's systematic efforts to jeopardise the chances of peace in the Middle East face some kind of opposition within Israel itself.

Peled's declarations, and the Palestinian-Israeli talks are a good enough reason in themselves to persuade the U.S. administration to reconsider its stand against the recognition of the PLO, and to start a direct dialogue with the PLO leadership. This meeting should also be sufficient to make the Americans take a harder line against the Israeli leadership and its irresponsible actions.

### Al Dustour: Saudi moves offer hope for inter-Arab unity

The news that Saudi Arabia is pursuing an active role in trying to improve relations between Iraq and Syria is so encouraging that it deserves special note. The Saudi effort is a positive step towards settling the differences between the two, and setting inter-Arab relations on the path towards regaining its cohesion. It will also help the Arab World in facing the great dangers threatening it, particularly at this stage of the Arab-Zionist conflict.

The visits paid by Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah to Damascus and Baghdad, in the latter case accompanying the Iraqi President Saddam Hussein back from his visit to Saudi Arabia, have aroused real optimism. In particular it is hoped that the past, with all its negative aspects, can be surmounted, and that a new solid base for joint Arab action in the face of external challenges can be forged.

The Arab Nation has suffered much through its own divisions and inconsistencies, which have perpetually split the Arabs into warring factions as a

result. The whole Arab Nation has suffered defeat upon defeat, and the Zionist enemy has found it easy to carry out its expansionist policies, thus threatening vast areas of Arab land.

The significance of the Saudi good-will drive is obvious, and we can only hope that the outcome of this effort will be positive. Hopefully then it will be possible to create a suitable Arab climate capable of dealing with Israel's premeditated policies aimed at the annexation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, not to mention its threat to Lebanese territorial integrity.

We do not have to remind anyone that Jordan, under the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein, has tirelessly warned of the danger of inter-Arab disunity. Jordan has always called, and still calls for, the rallying to unity of all Arab forces. This is the only way to thwart the Zionist aggressor, and to build a just and prosperous Arab community.

### Fears that the Israelis eventually aim to take over the entire town of Hebron

## Fighting the Israeli expansion

By Alan Elser  
Reuter

HEBRON — The Israeli flag fluttering from the highest building in the Arab market symbolises a growing Israeli presence in the heart of the second largest Palestinian town on the occupied West Bank. Three years ago, no Jews lived here. Now there are nearly 200 who have taken over eight buildings in the town centre. Acting Mayor Mustafa Natche is trying to fight the Israeli expansion. He recently won an Israeli supreme court order preventing the Israelis from bulldozing abandoned Arab buildings near the market to build apartment blocks for Jewish settlers.

The matter is to be discussed again by the court next month. Mr. Natche is afraid the Israelis aim to eventually take over the entire town whose population currently stands at 75,000. "The settlers want to drive us out," he said in an interview. "They are taking over more and more buildings and growing in number."

The settlers do not hide their aim of establishing a large Jewish quarter in the town centre but deny this would be at the expense of the Palestinian population.

"This city is holy to Jews and Muslims. It contains the burial place of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the Jewish patriarchs," said settler Yitzhak Cohen. "Why shouldn't we live here?"

Israel captured the town in the 1967 war, but the government first resisted the demands of ultra-nationalist Jews to allow them to live in Hebron. Instead, the government at the time established a new Jewish suburb of Kiryat Arba on a hill overlooking Hebron. More than 2,000 Israelis live there today and another 1,000 are expected to move into new luxury villas being built on a nearby hilltop.

#### Struggle for control

The Israeli expansion has led to a struggle between Jews and Arabs for control of land surrounding the town. Recently, settlers pulled down four electricity pylons they said were blocking a planned new stage of development of Kiryat Arba. The local Hebron government put up new pylons but settlers were back the following night to pull them down. They also demolished a house being built by a local Arab on the deserted, rocky hillside.

The municipality put up the pylons a third time and appealed to the Israeli army to stop the settlers from destroying them. At the moment they are still standing. Mr. Natche said the dispute over the pylons was just one aspect of the struggle for control of the town. "The settlers come at night and put posters on walls and houses saying this is the land of Zion for the Jews. They say we have many Arab countries we should go to. They are trying to intimidate us."

Mr. Cohen lives with his wife and daughter in one of four prefabricated houses set up near the market. He said he was waiting for the supreme court to lift its order so that construction could begin on a modern apartment block.

"In a few years, this will be the Jewish quarter of Hebron," Mr. Cohen said. "There will be hundreds of Jewish families here just as there are now in the Jewish quarter of the old city of Jerusalem." Mr. Natche intends to prevent that if he can. "We will fight them because we have no choice," he said.

"We have no arms to fight with but we wish to continue living on our land. The Jews have no right here."

## Signs of motion towards an agreement on reducing nuclear weapons in Europe

By Jeffrey Antevil  
Reuter

WASHINGTON — Despite apparent disarray in U.S. arms control policy, there are signs that President Reagan and Soviet leader Yuri Andropov are moving closer to an agreement on reducing nuclear weapons in Europe.

Many U.S. and West European arms control advocates were dismayed at Mr. Reagan's sudden dismissal last week of Arms Control Agency Director Eugene Rostow, a conservative who was serious bargaining with Moscow to limit nuclear weapons. The president said he would nominate Kenneth Adelman, a hardliner on U.S.-Soviet relations with very little arms control experience, to succeed Mr. Rostow at the agency responsible for setting policy to guide U.S. negotiators.

Confronted by cries of concern from both sides of the Atlantic, Secretary of State George Shultz and Mr. Reagan hastily called press conferences to reaffirm support for arms cuts in the strongest

terms to date. At the same time, the West German opposition Social Democratic Party candidate for chancellor, Hans-Jochen Vogel, said Mr. Andropov had made encouraging new proposals at a recent meeting in Moscow.

#### Zero-zero

Mr. Vogel said the new Kremlin leader, who had offered last month to reduce the number of Soviet missiles in Europe, was prepared to scrap at least some of the missiles and move others to bases in the east from which they cannot reach Western Europe. He said Mr. Andropov was also willing to negotiate on the number of warheads in Europe, not just missiles, and to count missiles separately from nuclear-armed aircraft.

U.S. officials said these offers, if confirmed by Moscow publicly or at the U.S.-Soviet talks on Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) due to resume in Geneva this month, would meet some key American conditions for an accord. They added that Pres-

ident Reagan had not yet decided whether to authorise his negotiators to consider compromises falling short of his "zero-zero" offer under which Washington would drop plans to deploy new missiles in Europe if Moscow scrapped its existing medium-range missiles.

Mr. Reagan refused to discuss U.S. negotiating strategy at his press conference last Friday. But he assured the West European allies, who face strong domestic anti-nuclear sentiment, that "we will consider every serious proposal and we are determined to succeed" in reducing nuclear arsenals.

"Our allies should not be concerned about whether we are lacking in determination or (are) in disarray because we are not," Mr. Reagan said. He said his plans for a U.S. military build-up had given Moscow the incentive to negotiate mutual reductions "and I'm convinced we can make real progress." He declined to predict an accord by 1985, but added: "We will stay at the table negotiating as long as there is any chance at all of securing an arms control agree-

ment because it is the most important problem facing this generation."

Mr. Shultz, at a press briefing last week, stressed "the president's firm dedication to pursuing arms control agreements, based on equality, stability and effective verification." He said the shake-up at the Arms Control Agency did not mean a change in the U.S. policy "calling for dramatic reductions in armaments, for the removal of a whole class of weapons from European soil and for reductions in many others."

While the focus now is on the INF talks, the comments by Mr. Reagan and Mr. Shultz applied as well to the U.S.-Soviet Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START) and other negotiations.

#### Cool response

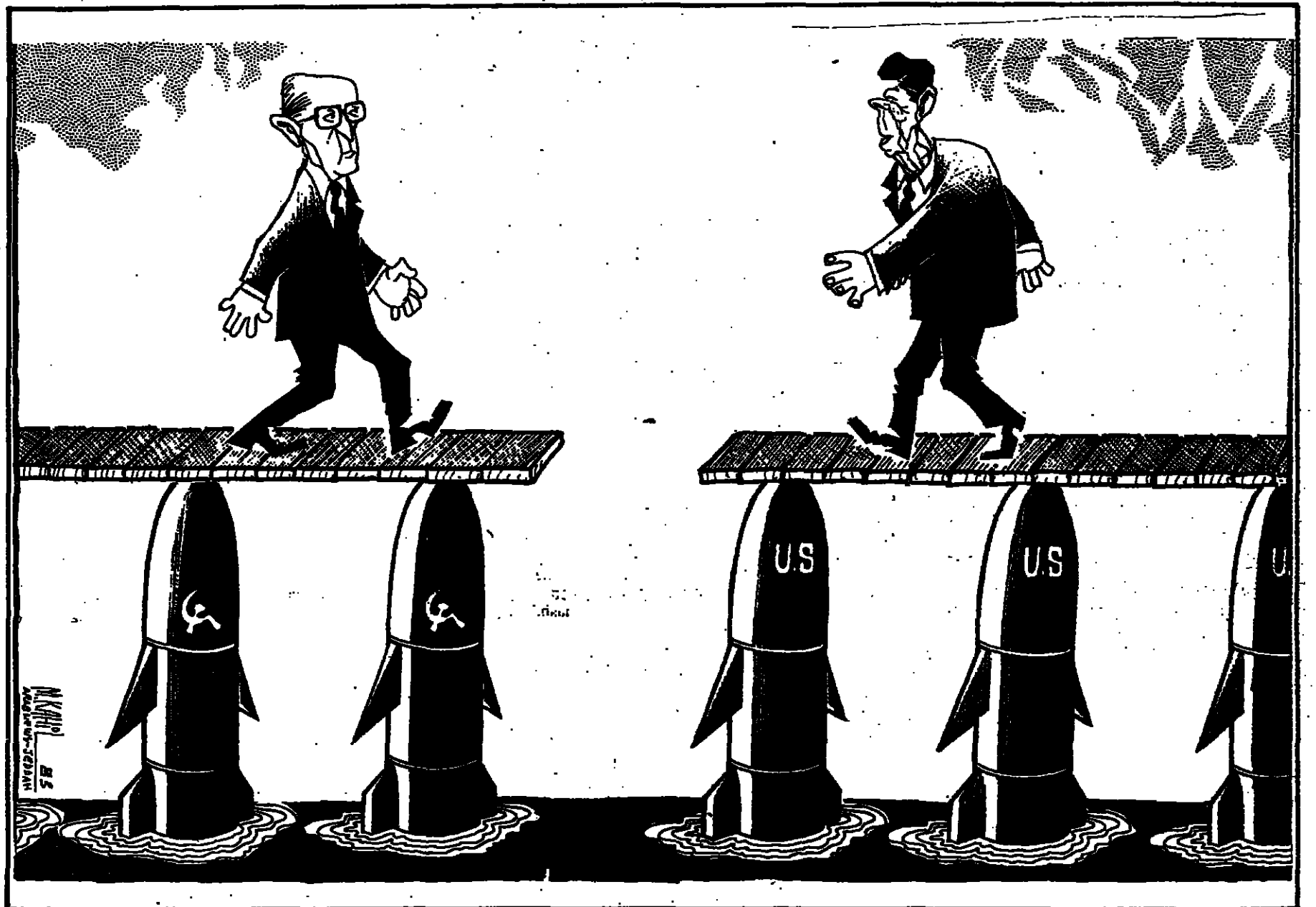
U.S. officials responded coolly to Mr. Andropov's original proposal last month to reduce Soviet missiles in Europe from more than 500 to around 162 — matching British and French nuclear forces — if NATO dropped plans to

deploy U.S. Cruise and Pershing-2 rockets.

They argued that missiles stored or shifted to Soviet Asia east of the Ural Mountains could be moved back to Europe in wartime, and that Moscow's mobile 4,800 km range SS-20 missiles could hit Western Europe even from their new bases.

Mr. Andropov's reported new proposals could remove these objections, although Mr. Vogel said the Soviet leader added that the exact number of missiles to be dismantled and the question of whether modern SS-20s would be included, "will have to be issues of negotiation." Since each SS-20 has three warheads, the suggestion that an agreement could be based on warhead rather than missile totals appeared to hold open the possibility of Moscow's accepting the deployment of some of the 572 Cruise and Pershing-2 missiles.

U.S. officials said Washington's views on these issues should be clearer by the time Vice President George Bush goes to Western Europe to discuss arms control issues at the end of the month.



### Lubbers' government forced to run hard from first day in office

## No honeymoon for Dutch government

By Walter Ellis

AMSTERDAM — Such was the pace of events in the Netherlands in 1982 that the new centre-right government of Mr. Ruud Lubbers has had no time to take a honeymoon. It was business as usual from its first day in office on November 11 and both partners in the coalition, Christian Democrats and Liberals, have been working hard ever since.

The latest austerity programme had to be completed and approved almost at once so that the finance ministry could begin preparations for next year's tax schedules. The Labour-led opposition, backed by the trade unions, was at the same time in no mood to grant easy passage to its rivals.

Mr. Ed Nijpels, the Liberal leader, had apparently gone out of his way to discredit Labour during post-election negotiations to form a new government. Now that the talks were done, Mr. Joop Den Uyl, leader of the opposition, was ready to repay Mr. Nijpels in his own coin.

The new government, formed after a mere 57 days — compared with the 108 occupied by talks the last time round — followed the general election of Sept. 8.

Labour emerged as the most powerful single party, with 47 seats, but the Christian Democrats, with 45, and the Liberals, with 36, were able to put together a comfortable majority which is expected to see them through at least two years in office.

Facing them is a yawning budget deficit of 10 per cent of national income, a social security system in need of drastic reform and unemployment currently topping 600,000, or 11 per cent of the workforce.

There is also the long unre-

solved question of the U.S. Cruise missiles, of which The Netherlands is committed under a 1979 NATO agreement to accepting 48 on Dutch soil. Opposition to the weapons is widespread, and successive governments have tried themselves in knots trying not to take any binding decision on deployment.

Mr. Lubbers' first month in office was marked by a climb-down over one of his more cherished proposals. The first meeting of his cabinet devoted much of its time to plans for a three-month breathing space during which wages, prices and social benefits would be frozen.

This was intended to accompany talks aimed at agreement on a new economic order, in which wage rises would be reduced and public spending would be slashed. Not surprisingly, the trade unions were less enthusiastic. Labour was also opposed to both ideas and there was even some disquiet within the coalition ranks.

In the end Mr. Lubbers was saved by an agreement between employers and unions on Nov. 19, under which employees would accept a pay rise of only 2 per cent on Jan. 1 in return for working shorter hours.

A joint request was subsequently made to Mr. Lubbers to drop his breathing space plan, and this he did, arguing that his main purpose had already been achieved.

Next Mr. Lubbers announced a 1983 blitz on public spending and public sector pay. He told parliament that it was essential for the government to reduce the budget deficit from the level it was expected to reach in 1983 — 11.9 per cent of national income — to 7.4 per cent by 1986.

As a result, social security pay-

ments this year would be held at 1982 levels and all 727,000 public employees would have their incomes frozen throughout 1983.

Once again, the Labour and union hackles rose. Teachers and transport workers went on strike for a day, and widespread protests were promised throughout the public sector. There were protests, too, about the effect on those with low incomes of cuts in the real value of social welfare payments and it was pointed out that nothing was being done to bring down the number out of work.

Mr. Den Uyl was especially incensed by a compromise plan worked out between the Christian Democrats and the Liberals for a new tax structure, which would have left the purchasing power of the wealthy undiminished while those at the bottom end of the scale would have seen their spending power go down by 4.5 per cent.

Some centre-left Christian Democrats were also upset by this prospect and, after much deliberation, a modified incomes plan was proposed, shaving the loss of the poorest back to 3.5 per cent and reducing the purchasing power of those earning more than £140,000 (\$53,640) per year by 1.5 per cent.

The Left's victories were not outstanding. They do, however, show that Mr. Lubbers is vulnerable to unified assault and cannot expect to introduce as tough a series of economic reforms as he would wish.

On the nuclear missiles front, the government has continued the fudging of its predecessors. The idea now is that preparations for the signing of the Cruise missiles should go ahead as planned, but that a decision on the siting of the weapons themselves should be left until parliament can consider the

results of the current East-West arms limitation talks in Geneva.

With most Dutch people opposed to the missiles, Mr. Lubbers and his colleagues were perhaps left with no other choice.

Even so, Washington, Bonn and London will be less than pleased. Deployment of the weapons in the Netherlands is intended to be part of a pattern of sitings in Europe, and the Dutch link is not only important in itself but could influence the policy of neighbouring

Belgium.

(At the moment, it could be argued that the government is merely defining the battleground and putting out feelers. Its long-term success will depend on the extent to which it can accommodate the views of the opposition inside and outside parliament, while still achieving its aim of creating a country better able to live within its means.

— Financial Times

## Letters

### Do not stereotype us

#### To the Editor

In response to Salwa El Taher's article on "The West and the Arab image" published in the Jordan Times recently.

Your article was well done. However, I must say to my sister: Please, do not stereotype Americans. My husband, myself and a vast number of the American people are PRO Arab. We wept with our Arab brothers at the invasion of Lebanon. We deeply grieve still over Sabra and Shatila.

Yet, perhaps in a way, our grief is even worse. We must live with the knowledge that it was OUR country which poured essential arms and money into Israel.

We did not and do not want this. We believe in a Palestinian homeland. We respect the right of all people everywhere to live in dignity and peace.

I believe and agree with you that great danger lies in stereotyping anyone. Let us look at the individual. Let us think for ourselves, and not judge from appearance or fall prey to popular opinion.

Let us remember that all men are brothers.

Barbara D. Dawis  
Jacobs International  
Box 17207  
Amman



## Pollution and the environment

# Fhais cement dust an insidious health hazard

By Mustafa M. Salma

In general the raw materials required to make cement consist of the following components: lime (calcareous), silica (siliceous), alumina (argillaceous), and iron (ferriferous); while the four major steps in the production of Portland cement are: (a) quarrying and crushing, (b) grinding and blending, (c) clinker production, and (d) finish grinding and packaging.

As the first step, limestone rock, shale and clay are extracted from open quarries. The limestone is then transported by truck to the crushing station where it is reduced to the required size by a double shaft hammer mill crusher. Crushed material is transported by a belt conveyor to the pre-blending hall and stockpiled according to the Chevrone pattern.

The reclaimed material is then transported by a system of conveyors to the raw mill feed silos of designated production lines. The sand is trucked from its source and is conveyed directly to the feed silos. The iron component, which is imported pyrite, is trucked from its outside source to a storage area in the cement plant, and conveyed to raw mill feed silos. After the raw materials are crushed, ground, properly mixed, and blended, they are introduced into rotary kilns that are fired with Bunker "C" oil. In the kilns the materials are dried, decarbonated, and calcined to produce a cement clinker. The clinker is cooled, mixed, ground with gypsum, and bagged for shipment as cement.

The JCF plant comprises six production lines which utilise a dry process for clinker production. Production lines 1, 2, and 3 have a production rate of 800 tonnes/day of clinker and are independent of the major production lines, except for their raw material crushing

facilities. Production line 4 (with its raw mill feed silos, mill feeding equipment, silo reclaiming equipment, gravel bed filter, clinker transport system, and an electrostatic precipitator) has a production rate of 700 tonnes/day of clinker. Production line 5 has a production rate of 2000 tonnes/day of clinker. Production line 6, which is being commissioned now, has a production rate of 3000 tonnes/day of clinker.

### Emissions and controls

Particulate matter is the primary emission in the manufacture of Portland cement, and is emitted from kilns, clinker coolers, the raw mill system, finish mill system, raw mill dryer, raw material storage, clinker storage, finished product storage, conveyor transfer points, bagging, bulk loading and unloading systems, and open piles.

In the dry process uncontrolled emissions from kilns reach about 123 Kg/mt, while from dryers, grinders, etc. they reach 48 Kg/mt. Control systems in common use include multicyclones, electrostatic precipitators, and fabric filters, with collection efficiencies ranging from 80-99.5 per cent, when properly and routinely maintained.

At the JCF plant, the Kilns' exhaust gases when not used for grinding and drying raw mill, are sent directly to the electrostatic precipitators and are exhausted. Air from the coolers is de-dusted by a gravel bed filter before being released to the atmosphere. Air from the clinker cooler is de-dusted by a system of multicyclones before being released to the atmosphere. Gases from the cement mills are exhausted through electrostatic precipitators which remove and collect the cement dust.

For the cement grinding, clinker from all production lines is trans-

ported to either of the three clinker silos. Clinker can also be transported through a screening station which removes the fines to an emergency outdoor storage area.

### Packing and dispatch

All cement shipments from the plant are by truck, and cement is shipped either in bags or in bulk. The cement factory has two bulk loading silos equipped with 4 truck loading spouts. There are four rotary bagging machines each with a theoretical capacity of 2,000 bags per hour (100 t/h). This operation is a main source of fugitive emission which is not totally controlled.

### Environmental problems

JCF has made considerable progress in fighting air pollution by the installation of emission control systems. The plants internal roads (which were a source of rampant dust), are being improved. Industrial water effluent and sanitary sewage from the plant is being treated in a primary sewage treatment plant, chlorinated, and recycled. Sludge from the sewage plant is trucked and dumped within the plant land area or in its quarries.

Yet in spite of all these measures, particulate matter and fugitive emissions are still the primary pollution problems facing and troubling the management. This is due to many factors, such as uncontrolled upper conditions, poor maintenance of pollution control devices, weak infrastructure, ignorance about the health effects of environmental pollution due to the lack of educational courses on the subject, and a general attitude of indifference.

During the year 1981, several visits were made to the plant to inspect its facilities, including sev-

eral unannounced inspection visits after five p.m. It was discovered that uncontrolled emissions during the night were more frequent than during the day. Visible plume from some of the stacks was in the range of 80-100 per cent opacity, as compared to 10 per cent opacity in similar cement plants in the U.S.A., having similar emission control equipment.

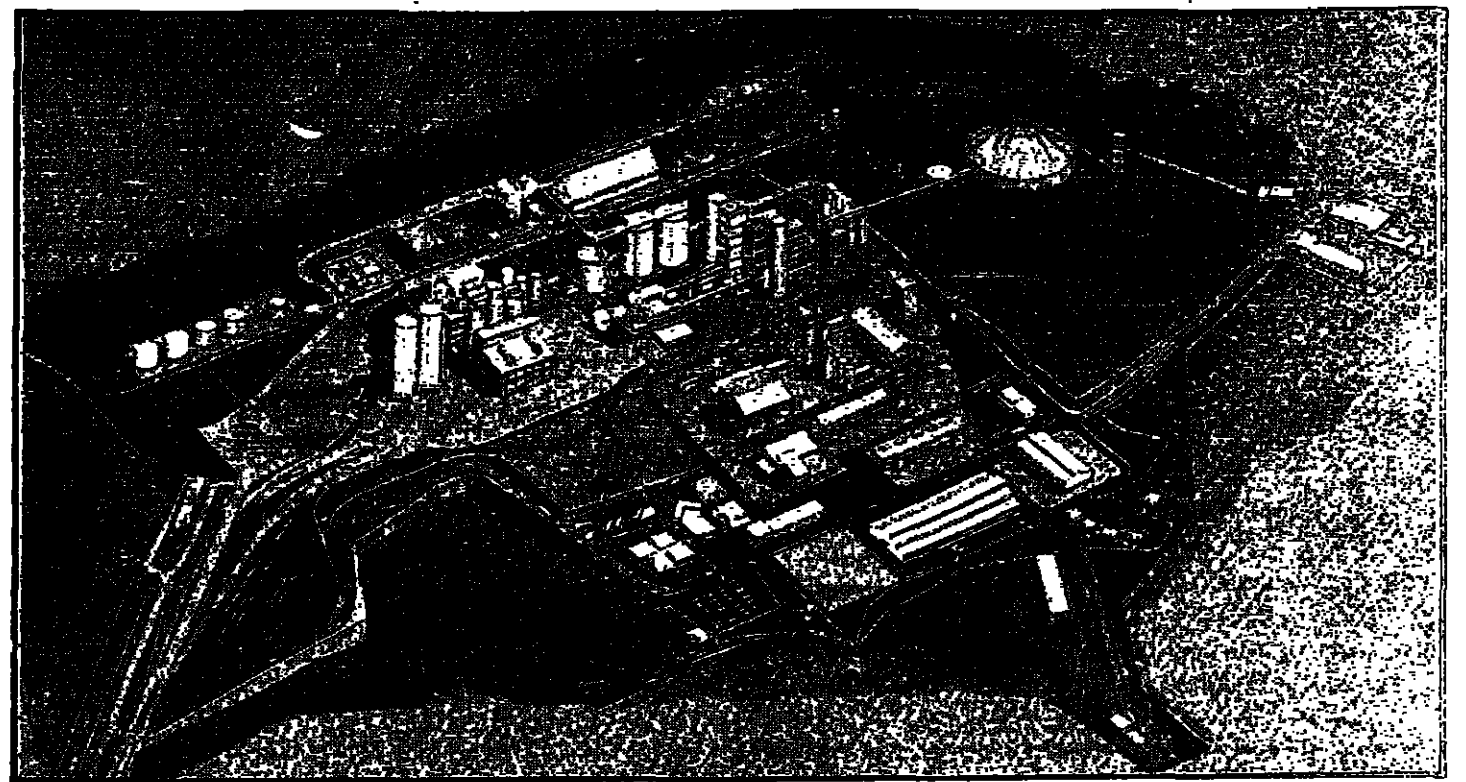
The complaints by the town's inhabitants about bad odours ("rotten eggs") were prompted by the release of hydrogen sulphide from the pyrite (iron sulphide) component used in the manufacture of cement, and not from cesspool waste which has a similar smell.

Dust emissions from the plant sometimes can be seen spreading to the hills of Wadi Seer. Dust particles cover the leaves of vegetation for many kilometres around the cement plant, especially in the direction of the prevailing westerly winds. Dust and odour are affecting the town of Fhais, and the cement company pays damages to the town amounting to JD 2,500 per month.

As stated earlier, all these production lines use Bunker "C" oil for their kiln firing system which has a sulphur content of 3.4 per cent. Therefore, air pollution emitted here will be in the form of sulphur dioxide.

The most serious single consequence of air pollution is its impact upon human health. Sulphur oxides, sulphuric acid and sulphate particles irritate the respiratory system causing both temporary and permanent injury. When small particles are breathed in with sulphur oxides, the irritation and injury may increase significantly.

Workers' exposure to heavy pollution will contribute to a lowered pulmonary reserve capacity, and may subject them to a greater risk of developing chronic lung



The Jordan Cement Factory (JCF) installation at Fhais (from an original model drawing)

disease in later years. There is a long latency period, perhaps as much as 30 years between the first exposure to dangerous environmental pollutants and the occurrence of disease. This slow, non-immediate response to pollution has made it difficult for many to comprehend the impact of environmental degradation on health. Plants and animals are affected by air pollution as well.

### Monitoring operations

As an example, the U.S.A. standards for emission of particulate matter (dust) from Portland cement plants are as follows:

#### Kilns

Kilns should not be allowed to dis-

charge into the atmosphere particulate matter in excess of 0.15 Kg per tonne of feed (average over a maximum period of two hours) or of an opacity greater than 10 per cent.

#### Clinker coolers

These cannot discharge into the atmosphere particulate matter exceeding 0.05 Kg per tonne of clinker feed (maximum two-hour average) or of an opacity greater than 10 per cent.

There are no air pollution monitoring capabilities in Jordan to determine the actual level of air pollutants emitted from the JCF plant to the atmosphere. Furthermore, regulatory control strategies involving legislation,

administration, and enforcement of air pollution standards are still lacking.

Nonetheless, in the meantime, I believe it is the responsibility of the Department of Environment towards public welfare, to ask the management of the JCF plant to install, calibrate, maintain, and operate emission monitoring instruments as follows:

- (1) Hi-Volume samplers for continuously measuring particulate matter discharged to the atmosphere in and outside the plant area.
- (2) Source sampling equipment for determining the level of emissions of particulate matter from

plant kilns and clinker coolers. (3) Equipment for continuously monitoring and recording sulphur dioxide emissions. Records of daily production rates, sulphur dioxide and particulate emission measurements should be maintained and summarised monthly. The records and summary should be retained for at least one to two years and should be submitted to appropriate government environmental inspectors on demand.

However, without legislation to enforce control laws vigorously and impose suitable penalties, protection of the environment will be a waste of time and industry will have little desire to comply with control standards.

## Room to grow--or an ever-widening crack?



Salwa El Taher

Twang, twang, twang! Bing, bing, bing! Electronic games start shooting at eight a.m. in the bedroom, creep at nine into the living room, strategically withdraw to the bathroom, only to emerge at the kitchen at ten. My cake shock will probably refuse to rise.

"Will you please stop those games, children! Don't you have any homework to do?"

But today's Thursday, Mother! We can play.

Then what happened to your Scrabble, and your Ludo, and your Lego? Do you have to play with those... things all day long? Now I am cross with myself. Kill-joy! Why do I over-react? Besides, tomorrow is my eldest's birthday, and I shouldn't spoil things for him. But how can I survive this constant noise pollution? And what about the ugliness all around me? Do modern toys have to be such an eyesore?

Seven p.m. The Chinese rolls crackle in the hot oil, while the waffles turn golden in the pan. A combination only children could invent. But what harmony as the

exotic aroma of Far Eastern spices rises and blends with the sweet smell of American syrup! I revel in the warmth of the stove and my woollen shirt, and my home and my family, as the snow chills the windows outside. All of a sudden...

Crash, crash, crash! Smash, smash, smash!

Is it the T.V. or the video set? Whichever, the ordeal of the night has started. Why ever did I think tonight would be different? Very quickly, I serve dinner. Very quickly I pack my four-year-old off to bed, bribing him with an endless bedtime story that, amazingly enough, he is still able to enjoy.

come back to the living room where my eldest son's "almost-cry" as he asks me: "Mother, what are you getting upset about? I have seen much worse things!" And so he has. As my husband seems unperturbed, I feel like a stiff old maid. Sounding at thirty like my grandmother at sixty, the same resentful complaints. The thought distresses me no end, and

I have to take myself to my room.

And, in my sound-insulated haven, a war rages inside me. Modern Don Quixote, relent! There is nothing you can do, so drop the crusade. But what are they doing to our children? The same as has been done to us, I suppose. What a pitiful excuse...

My son's birthday card lies on my desk, waiting to be signed. But it isn't a card I feel like writing him. Should I try writing him a letter? Why should I wait for him to leave home before I can write to him? Has he left home already?

My dear son, Good morning, birthday boy! This morning you will step out of bed brimming with anticipation and excitement. And I will go through the day aching with pride, joy, fear, wonder and awe.

For if you are impatient, if you are all-taken by your youthful forward rush, I have to think of the separation. Not the one that took place when they cut the umbilical cord eleven years ago. The sep-

aration that insidiously takes place as we live side by side and cannot help but grow apart with time.

Today, I want to make sure we have not grown too far apart. For if I expect space and distance to set in and expand between us, I dread the cracks that create chasms and develop into abysses.

Our first years together were such pure harmony... We daily discovered and re-invented the world. When you brother was born you told me: "He is your gift to the whole family". But then it was, I think, that you experienced your first sense of loss.

As the ties between us seemed to get blurred and you turned seven, I sat beside you trying to feel your wounds: "You're such a difficult age", I tried to explain, calling to my assistance whatever I had heard. "You are no longer a baby, but you are not yet a grown-up. You are too old for certain things and yet not old enough for others. It is very, very hard..." Well, everybody go through it, don't they? It was your very own reply. The intensity of your gaze

took my breath away. Today, you reach another turning point, requiring from you just as much courage.

You see, after you turned seven, your interests grew and multiplied. I was unable to keep up, unable to get as involved. But if it never occurred to me to check you, I nonetheless - secretly and openly - often disapproved. "Sorry, I am not interested in extra-terrestrials," I hear myself snap. "I have enough problems with the terrestrials." And when during holidays abroad, it became obvious that what you wanted to do most was to watch football on television, I withdrew. Do you think things would have been different had you been a girl? What a sexist question. Forget I even asked it.

Yet it distresses me to hear you and your friends talk bits and pieces and blows. My "realistic" friends tell me that, ours being a violent world, you should be prepared for it. But surely, this isn't the way? You knew nothing of violence until you were six. Your lack of

aggression used even to worry me at times. But, as soon as you started going to school, you learnt to return blow for blow. The instinct of survival took over with you, as it always does with the healthy. You did not need to spend your pre-school years toughening up.

The same holds now. I do not think that we should corrupt your mind with the excuse that ours is a corrupt world. Yes, I think I hit the correct word. Those who call themselves "realists" are just looking for an excuse not to try. They are too lazy for any effort, too unconcerned to really care.

You even have a special case: you have Palestinian parents. According to some, you should have been nursed on the milk of the cause. This is, of course, one way of doing things. But, you know, if you ever have to fight, I would prefer you to do it from enlightened choice than from incultured bitterness. I did not think it fair to load your tender shoulders with the weight of world politics. You can start learning

now all about rigged matches. Meanwhile, I have protected you from politics in order not to rob you of your childhood.

And now that your childhood is drawing to a close, what conflicts what adjustments await us? So far, we haven't done so badly. I think... Your Karate posters have gone up on your walls, but so have some poetry ones as well, and a world map. We still exchange spare stamps. And you always call me when our favourite comedy is on, because both of us laugh so much better together.

We might stand at opposite extremes on science-fiction, violence or football. I do not know whether to call it a generation gap, a sex difference or a personality conflict. Moreover, I am tired of all the worn-out clichés. I just want to tell you that, as everything nowadays happens quicker, earlier in life, so do the first estrangements between father and daughter, between mother and son. But so do, also, the first reconciliations, the first reconciliations and the first first reunions.

## TV & RADIO

### JORDAN TELEVISION

**MAIN CHANNEL**  
06:30 Koran  
06:35 Cartoons  
06:40 Local Children's Programme  
06:45 Children Play  
07:00 Sports  
07:05 Local Programme  
07:10 News in Arabic  
07:15 Arabic Series  
07:20 News in Arabic  
07:25 News in Arabic

### FOREIGN CHANNEL

06:00 French Programme  
07:00 News in French  
07:20 News in Hebrew  
07:30 Comedy  
07:40 Documentary  
07:50 Saturday Variety Show  
08:00 News in English  
08:15 Feature Film

### RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM  
A parity on 95.60 KHz, SW

07:10 Morning Show  
07:20 News Bulletin  
07:30 News Summary  
07:40 Pop Service  
07:50 News Bulletin  
08:00 Piano Time  
08:10 Concert Hour  
08:20 News Summary  
08:30 Jordan Weekly  
08:40 News Bulletin  
08:50 Special Feature  
09:00 Great Books of Islam  
09:10 Top Twenty  
09:20 Date with a Star  
09:30 News Summary  
09:40 Classical Concert  
09:50 News Summary  
10:00 First Spin  
10:10 News Summary  
10:20 Country Music  
10:30 News Headlines, Sign Off

### BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz

06:00 Newscast 06:30 Jazz Workshop  
06:45 Financial News 06:55 Reflections  
07:00 World News 07:05 British Press Review 07:15 About Britain 07:20 New Review 07:30 Book Choice 07:45 The World Today 08:00 Newscast 08:30 Album Time 09:00 World News 09:05 News about Britain 09:15 From the Weeklies 09:30 Classical Record Review 09:45 Network U.K. 10:00 World News 10:05 Reflections 10:15 Star Profile 10:30 Animal, Vegetable or Mineral? 11:00 World News 11:05 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News 11:40 Look Ahead 11:45 Science in Action 12:15 What's New 12:30 So Close to a Minute 12:50 World News 13:00 News about Britain 13:15 About Britain 13:30 Meridian 14:00 News Bulletin 14:15 Anything Goes 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:05 Commentary 15:15 Network U.K. 15:20 A Small Town in Germany 16:00 Book Choice 16:30 Arrangements for the Piano 17:00 Radio Newscast 17:15 Saturday Special 18:00 World News 18:05 Commentary 18:15 Saturday Special 19:00 News Summary 19:05 Sunday Special 19:20 Book Choice 19:45 The Magic of... 19:45 Sports Round-Up 20:00 World News 20:05 News about Britain 20:15 Radio Newscast 20:30 Private Lives 21:30 Album Time 22:00 World News 22:05 Commentary 22:15 Good Books 22:30 Book Choice 22:45 News Summary 23:00 On 23:30 People and Politics 24:00 World News 24:05 From Our Own Correspondent 00:30 News Ideas 00:40 Reflections 00:45 Sports Round-up 01:00 World News 01:05 Commentary 01:15 Letterbox 01:30 Meridian

### VOICE OF AMERICA

1260, 7201, 17023, 15203

06:00 The Breakfast Show 17:00 News and Newscast  
07:00 News Summary  
07:10 Top Twenty  
07:20 Date with a Star  
07:30 News Summary  
07:40 Classical Concert  
07:50 News Summary  
08:00 First Spin  
08:10 News Summary  
08:20 Country Music  
08:30 News Headlines, Sign Off

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### TODAY'S EVENTS

Exhibitions

"Jordan '83, paintings, at the French Cultural Centre.

### CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic): Jabel Amman, Tel. 24590.  
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic): Jabel Lweish-el, 37440.  
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic): Jabel Hussein, 661757.  
Church of the Assumption (Greek Orthodox): Abadi, 23451.  
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer): Jabel Amman, 43453.  
Armenian-Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 71331.  
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 72561.  
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox): Ashrafieh, 71751.  
Armenian International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisil, 663249.

### SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Tycho Hotel, 1.30 p.m.  
Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Marriott Hotel, 1.30 p.m.  
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m.  
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel, 2.00 p.m.  
Royal Automobile Club, Jabel Amman, Eighth Circle, Tel. 815261.

### CULTURAL CENTRES

American Centre tel. 41520  
British Council 36147-8  
French Cultural Centre 37009  
German Institute 41993  
Soviet Cultural Centre 44203

### MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre. Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.  
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabel Al Qe'a (Cliff Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays) 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays.  
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries. A collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Muzannah, Jabel Lweishieh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.  
Military Museum: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.  
Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 years old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169.

### PRAYER TIMES

06:15 Fajr  
06:25 (Sunrise) Shaur  
10:47 Dhuhr  
14:48 Ashr  
17:40 Maghrib  
18:22 Isha

## FOR THE TRAVELLER

### AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by the information department at Amman Airport, tel. 92205-6, where it should always be verified.

### ARRIVALS

06:45	Cairo (EA)
06:50	Cairo (RI)
06:55	Amman (RI)
07:00	Beirut (RI)
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## SPORTS

## Olympics would be conducted according to Charter, LAOC says

LOS ANGELES (R) — The Los Angeles Organising Committee (LAOC) and President Reagan confirmed Friday that next year's summer games would follow the requirements of the Olympic Charter.

Hours earlier the vice-president of the Soviet National Olympic Committee, Victor Ivonin, had expressed concern that arrangements for the Los Angeles games would not follow the rules laid down by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

Ivonin was worried about a possible repetition of the 1980 winter games in Lake Placid when some members of the Soviet delegation were denied entry visas by the U.S. government and were unable to attend.

But LAOC President Peter Ueberroth told a press conference that, in accordance with the Charter, Olympic identity cards and national passports would be the only documents required for entry into the U.S. for 30 days before and 30 days after the games.

A video-taped message of welcome by President Reagan to delegates from 144 National Olympic Committees also confirmed that the U.S. government would abide by the Charter.

The delegates are in Los

Angeles for a meeting with the IOC executive board.

Ueberroth allayed some other Soviet fears by confirming that charter flights carrying teams would be allowed to fly to Los Angeles and that merchant ships carrying bulky items of team equipment would be allowed to dock.

Ivonin said earlier that no decision would be taken over Soviet participation until it became clear that the U.S. would abide by the Olympic Charter.

Ueberroth, who submitted a games progress report to the IOC executive board, announced that the IOC and the LAOC had signed an agreement on accommodation costs for competitors.

The basic price will be \$35 a day for 20 days, with refunds available for unused days. Accommodation cost \$20 a day at the 1976 Montreal Olympics and \$18 a day at the 1980 Moscow Games.

Asked how the LAOC could justify a price nearly twice as high as in Moscow, Ueberroth said: "I believe the costs are identical to Sarajevo (site of next year's winter games) and are appropriate. They are less than at most other sporting events."

"Our real costs are between \$300 and \$400 a day per athlete,"

he added.

The LAOC had revised its estimated surplus from 21 to less than \$10 million, with an overall budget of \$480 million, Ueberroth said.

He added that he expected seven million tickets to go on sale, three million of them costing less than \$10 each, with an average price of \$18.

"These games are not for profit," he said. "We don't want a profit and we don't expect a profit. But by law we must have a small surplus."

Money left over from the games will be used to promote the Olympic movement and for the development of sport.

Ueberroth said no decision had been made on the venue for the shooting events next year. In the absence of a suitable site in the Los Angeles area, the LAOC had hoped to stage the events at Las Vegas.

The IOC disapproved of this proposal and asked the LAOC to find another venue before the IOC session in New Delhi at the end of March.

The LAOC published a draft timetable for next year's Olympic programme though precise details were still awaited from some sports federations, including

athletics.

Victor Ivonin told a press conference that countries planning to attend the games were unable to make proper preparations until the LAOC provided detailed information on rights of entry into the United States, security during the games, transport, accommodation and costs.

Asked whether there were any doubts about Soviet participation in the Los Angeles Olympics in view of the U.S.-led boycott of the 1980 Moscow Games, Ivonin replied: "We do not relate our 1984 participation to the U.S. boycott."

"We support the Olympic movement. The word boycott is not part of our vocabulary. We shall decide on our participation when we get answers to our questions. We are not making any special demands."

An LAOC demand for the first advance payment by March this year for the accommodation of all teams had been criticised by a meeting of the Association of National Olympic Committees Thursday.

There was also concern that security during the games should be dealt with by federal, state and local agencies rather than just the LAOC.

## Snow should give Mikkola the edge in Monte Carlo rally

PARIS (R) — Hannu Mikkola and his Audi Quattro should romp away with next week's Monte Carlo rally if snow blankets the Alps.

A white curtain will leave the brilliant Finn ready to dominate the World Championship classic and his rivals contesting second place.

The reason is simple. Mikkola is not only among the world's top five drivers, he has a car with a leech-like grip because of its four-wheel drive.

Mikkola can also be expected to beat his own highly rated team mates — Frenchwoman Michele Mouton and Stig Blomqvist of Sweden — because he is the faster driver, although Blomqvist, new to Audi and the Monte, is certainly no slouch on snow.

Ironically, an Audi Quattro has never won the Monte. Mikkola gave the car its international debut on the event two years ago, but hit a bridge while leading. Last year, West German Walter Rohrl took his Opel Ascona to a knife-edged triumph over Mikkola, again in an Audi.

Rohrl went on to snatch the world drivers' title from Mouton then signed a 1983 contract with Lancia — Audi's main rival along with Opel this year.

The Audi trio apart, other leading challengers must include Rohrl, 1981 winner Jean Ragnotti of France in a Renault 5 turbo and former World Champion Ari Vatanen of Finland and Guy Frequefin of France — who has a Monte record unequalled in recent years — in a pair of works Opel Ascona 400's.

Rohrl, the first driver to win the world crown twice, ran into controversy last season when he said the Audi was so technically superior that even an educated monkey could win in it.

He also left Opel under acrimonious circumstances after indicating his unwillingness to compete in the British round of the series having clinched the world title on a previous event.

Three works cars have been entered by Japanese firms Nissan and Mazda having proved their worth on the rugged tracks of Africa.

A total of 250 cars are expected to set out on the 1,200 km. open-

ing leg of the 51st Monte from seven European starting points on Saturday morning.

Drivers begin the non-competitive run to Grenoble from: Paris (86 cars), Lausanne (60), Monte Carlo (57), Bad Homburg (19), Barcelona (12), Rome (9), Dover (7). At the British seaport of Dover, competitors simply drive down the quay on to a cross channel ferry to France.

Competitors leave Grenoble on Sunday evening for the opening stages across the French Alps, finishing in Monaco the following morning. The section comprises six timed tests totalling 157 km and will provide the first indication of the leading challengers.

The top 200 cars leave Monaco on Tuesday morning for another 15 stages (403 km) in the mountains and the survivors return to the principality on Thursday for the third and final act, 10 overnight tests (215 km) in the southern Alps. Only 100 leading cars tackle the final leg.

## United manager sticks to team that defeated Forest

LONDON (R) — Manchester United manager Ron Atkinson is relying on the team which beat Nottingham Forest 4-0 on Wednesday for Saturday's repeat soccer clash in the English first division.

United reached the semifinal of the English League Cup with their 4-0 victory over Forest and are in second place in the first division but 10 points behind League Champions Liverpool.

"It is important for us to keep the pot boiling just in case Liverpool do make any slips," said Atkinson. "We've got to keep our feet on the ground. Wednesday's result does not mean a thing."

Birmingham manager Ron Saunders has to decide who to drop to make way for new signing Howard Gayle for their visit to Liverpool. Gayle looks certain to play but Saunders played safe Friday by naming a squad of 12.

Former England striker Mike Channon Friday signed for Norwich City for the rest of the season after completing a one-month contract with the East Anglian club and is in the squad for their match against Everton. Defender Dave Watson, suffering a damaged ear drum, is still not fit and his place is taken by Norwegian Aage Hareide.

Channon, who has played for Southampton and Manchester City, said after signing, "I am delighted. I always knew I was still good enough for the first division. It was a case of getting the opportunity and I am pleased that Norwich have given me that chance."

Tommy Caton returns to Manchester City's side for Saturday's away match against Aston Villa but manager John Bond has not said who will be dropped to make way for the young England defender.

## Rene Courte claims he was sacked by IOC

ZURICH (R) — Rene Courte, press and public relations officer of the International Football Federation (FIFA) since 1969, has left the world organisation, general secretary Joseph Blatter said Thursday.

Blatter told Reuters that Courte had ended his contract, but Courte himself said he had been sacked. Courte, contacted at home, said he had received a letter from FIFA president Joao Havelange dated Jan. 3 in which he told him that his contract, due for expiry on Jan. 31, 1984, would not be renewed.

"I was asked to contact the FIFA lawyers towards terminating my contract as soon as possible. At their request I handed over the keys to my office on the 14th of this month," he added.

Earlier Blatter, just back from the International Olympic Committee meetings in Los Angeles, said: "Rene Courte, who joined FIFA as an assistant secretary in 1960 and was put in charge of press and public relations in 1969, has terminated his contract with FIFA."

## Michael Holding refuses to join rebel tour

HOBART (R) — West Indies fast bowler Michael Holding rejected a \$245,000 offer to join the rebel cricket tour of South Africa, a Tasmanian newspaper said Friday.

Holding, playing in Australia for the Tasmania state team, told Hobart's Mercury newspaper that Lawrence Rowe, captain of the rebel West Indian team, telephoned him with the offer three days ago.

Holding said he rejected the offer because he would never play in South Africa while its race policy of apartheid was continuing there.

"As I made it plain to Lawrence I wasn't interested in the offer. We didn't really go into details," Holding said.

"From what he told me, though, I gather I was to get \$250,000 for signing a contract to play in South Africa for the rest of this season and again next season."

"I know it's a lot of money but the principle of the thing is far more important to me than the money," he was quoted as saying.

Holding, playing for Tasmania against South Australia Friday, was not immediately available for comment.

## U.S. forms

## Team America

NEW YORK (R) — The U.S. Soccer Federation Thursday announced the formation of a "Team America" to represent the United States in international competition.

Federation President Gene Edwards and Howard Sanguels, President of the North American Soccer League (NASL), said the team would train as the official U.S. entry for the 1986 World Cup.

They said they hoped it would also represent the United States in next year's Olympic Games in Los Angeles, subject to a ruling by the International Olympic Committee on professional athletes.

They said the team would play a full 30-game schedule in the professional NASL as part of its Olympic and World Cup training and afterwards play between 10 and 20 matches against foreign national sides and leading international clubs.

## Coetzee seeks fight against Dokes

ATLANTIC CITY (R) — South African heavyweight Garrie Coetzee, who has only to beat American Pinklon Thomas in their 10-round fight on Saturday to earn a third attempt at the world title, believes it will be a fast-paced fight that he will win.

Ranked the number one contender for Michael Dokes' World Boxing Association title, Coetzee has won 28 fights, including 16 knockouts, and lost three. He has been mentioned as a possible opponent for World Boxing Council Champion Larry Holmes.

## Brazilian soccer fans pay last respects to Garrincha

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Thousands of Brazilian football fans queued Thursday to pay their last respects to Mane Garrincha, who was perhaps the world's greatest right-winger, as he lay in state in Rio de Janeiro.

Only hours after his death in hospital Thursday morning, the former idol of his countrymen was taken to the massive Maracana stadium, shrine of Brazilian football and the largest soccer arena in the world.

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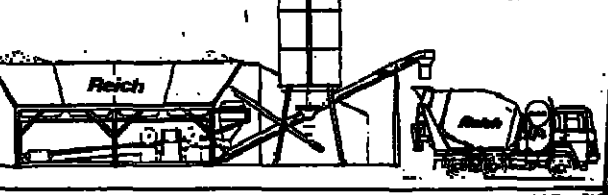
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## WORLD

## Nakasone faces criticism at home

TOKYO (R) — Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone returned from Washington Friday to widespread criticism of the remarks he made there on defence and political sources said the controversy might bring on a general election.

Newspapers and opposition parties have attacked his pledges to build up Japan's armed forces and he is expected to face heated debate in parliament after making the first speech of his new session on Monday.

The political sources said the opposition could show its disapproval by blocking the passage of next year's budget, which could precipitate a dissolution of parliament and an election.

One newspaper, Mainichi Shimbun, said Friday that Mr. Nakasone's U.S. visit may have opened a dangerous path for the future.

The mass-circulation Asahi Shimbun said it was inconceivable for a prime minister to commit Japan to an expanded military role without first consulting parliament.

In an interview with the Washington Post during his visit, Mr. Nakasone was quoted as saying he wanted Japan to become an unsinkable aircraft carrier to counter growing Soviet strength in the Pacific.

Mr. Nakasone later denied making the remark but the Kyodo news agency Friday quoted him as

telling reporters he had in fact made it.

The Soviet news agency TASS said any such strategy would make Japan a target for retaliation worse than the atomic bombing in 1945.

The Japanese foreign ministry called the TASS report over-reaction but officials said Mr. Nakasone's reported remark could be a problem at the forthcoming parliamentary session.

The opposition, largely ineffective in parliament because of the overall majority of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, could still block legislation in working committees, including the budget

committee. The budget for the financial year starting in March, which proposes a 6.5 per cent increase in defence spending, will be the main feature of the coming session.

The political sources noted that Mr. Nakasone told Japanese journalists in Washington he would dissolve the lower house if a political impasse arose.

This would lead to a general election.

They said his talks with President Reagan would help curb a growing feeling in Japan that relations with the United States were deteriorating, although fundamental trade friction had not been resolved.

## West Europe's Socialist rulers to meet

PARIS (R) — West European left-wing government leaders gathered in Paris this weekend to discuss efforts by France's ruling Socialist Party to revive its flagging public support, and to exchange ideas on fighting recession.

Leaders of Spain, Austria, Greece, Sweden and Finland will take part on Sunday in a debate at a party seminar on ways of renewing the drive for reform launched by the election of President Francois Mitterrand.

His supporters believe their 1981 victory began a tide towards the left that has since swept Socialist governments to power in Greece and Spain.

But with continuing recession and a series of policy reversals by

the Mitterrand administration, opinion polls are showing widespread disillusionment among Socialist voters.

Opposition commentators have depicted the four-day seminar as an attempt to refurbish the public image of the French Socialists and revive flagging party morale in the run-up to key municipal elections in March.

At Sunday's debate, the government leaders, who also include Senegalese Prime Minister Habib Thiam, will discuss their domestic policies and the role they see France playing.

They are also likely to consider the changing political face of Northern Europe. In the past six months a Social Democratic government has won power in Swe-

den and West Germany's centre-left coalition has been replaced by a conservative administration. Despite a common ideology the European parties are pursuing divergent policies in several areas, including the economy and defence.

For example the moderate economic programme of Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez contrasts sharply with the radical policies of the French administration, which include sweeping nationalisations and close supervision of business activity.

But the left-wing governments agree in their opposition to conservative-inspired deflationary policies which they see as aggravating the recession.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Venezuelan unionist denies kidnap claim

CHICAGO (R) — One of five men convicted along with the head of the teamsters union last month for trying to bribe a U.S. Senator was shot to death in a gangland fashion in a suburban hotel parking lot. Police in Lincolnwood, a northwest suburb, said the victim, Allen Dorfman, had just parked his car when two men, one black and one white, walked up behind him. One man announced a hold-up and immediately pumped seven shots into Dorfman from a 22 calibre automatic.

## Teamster associate killed in Chicago

CARACAS (R) — Venezuelan trade union chief Jose Vargas said his daughter and a niece had pretended they had been kidnapped as an explanation for their failure to return home the previous night. Vargas, president of the Venezuelan Workers' Federation, went on television to deny that they had been abducted. He did not say where they spent the night. Police had earlier said his 15-year-old daughter Yasmira and niece Coralia Hernandez, 20, had been held by kidnapers for 12 hours.

## Salvadoran rebels raid shoe shops

SAN SALVADOR (R) — About 100 leftwing guerrillas raided three shoe shops in the centre of Soyapango town, three kilometres west of here, and made off with three truckloads of shoes, a military spokesman reported. The spokesman said one guerrilla and two civilians were killed when the raiders clashed with security forces.

## Tehran expels TASS correspondent

LONDON (R) — Iran has told the correspondent of the Soviet news agency TASS to leave the country for failing to observe formalities required of foreign pressmen. The national Iranian news agency Iria said the decision would mean the closure of the Tehran office of TASS, one of the few foreign news agencies still operating in Iran.

## Turkey, Egypt may have trouble over U.S. arms loans

WASHINGTON (R) — Turkey and Egypt may be in trouble over repaying big U.S. loans for arms purchases, a congressional investigative unit said. The General Accounting Office (GAO) criticised the U.S. government's practice of financing military exports through the Federal Financing Bank (FFB), which, it said, forced foreign governments to pay unrealistically high rates. Turkey's repayments have been lengthened, but it "will probably continue to have difficulties making payments," a GAO report said.

## Nissan develops car with foot controls

TOKYO (R) — Nissan Motor Company said it will soon start selling a car that can be driven by people unable to use their arms. The driver uses the left foot to operate the ignition, steering and parking brake. The right foot controls the brakes, accelerator, the opening and closing of doors and selection of the automatic transmission. Turn indicators are activated through the headrest while lights, windshield wipers and washer switches are manipulated by the right shoulder.

## Car thief finds driving 'a religion'

GLASGOW (R) — A Scottish gardener who claimed to have stolen more than 700 cars over 10 years told a court he found spiritual solace in driving. Anthony Brimmon, 34, said that while other people turned to the church in time of trouble, he began stealing cars when his marriage broke up. "To me, driving is a religion," he said. His lawyer said Brimmon cared deeply for the cars he stole and never sold or damaged them. Sentencing was deferred.

## Cosmos 1402 may crash within days

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States says a crippled Soviet spy satellite loaded with nuclear fuel is losing altitude rapidly and will probably plunge to earth on Sunday or Monday, with the odds on a harmless shutdown in the ocean.

Several countries were taking precautions to deal with potentially radioactive debris, the Pentagon said the danger was relatively small.

Officials said the 45-

pound Cosmos 1402 was likely to disintegrate in the atmosphere and there was a 70 per cent chance the pieces would drop harmlessly into the sea.

They said there would be a radiation threat if the reactor fell intact, but predicted it would break up and its fuel would burn up before it hit earth, causing little if any danger.

The U.S. Department of Energy has a cleanup team on stand-by to answer calls from countries if the satellite or its parts

fell on their territory, U.S. officials said.

The Pentagon said Cosmos 1402, designed to keep watch on movements of navies around the world, would probably enter the atmosphere between 0600 GMT on Sunday and 2000 GMT on Monday and begin its final 30-minute descent. It began losing orbit late last month.

Several countries, including Canada, West Germany and Belgium, are preparing emergency teams to tackle any debris.

## Snow demotes top foreign affairs expert

DENVER (R) — Valentin Falin, Soviet ambassador to Germany and one of Moscow's best-known foreign affairs experts, has been removed from his post in the Kremlin, his spokesman said Thursday.

Falin was transferred to the Communist newspaper Izvestia to work as a political commentator.

Falin's title was first chief of the Communist central committee's information department, a function he regularly met visiting leaders and politicians.

The spokesman would not con-

firmly a major step down for a man who had long been tipped by Western observers in Moscow as likely to reach one of the top political positions.

His move was one of the most significant personnel changes made since Yuri Andropov took over as Communist Party chief in November.

A suave, self-assured man with fluent German, Mr. Falin was ambassador to Bonn from 1971 to 1978. He gained wide respect for his skill and ease of manner in presenting Soviet viewpoints in public discussions.

On his return to Moscow he was appointed to the important central committee post and became a close adviser to President Leonid

Brezhnev on relations with East and West Germany.

The spokesman gave no reason for Mr. Falin's move but Soviet sources said there were personal reasons behind it connected with the conduct of members of his family.

There have also been unconfirmed reports that Mr. Andropov was considering closing down the entire information department and moving its chief, Leonid Zamyatin, to another post.

In an earlier reshuffle last month Mr. Andropov made Boris Stukalin, 59, new head of the central committee propaganda department and the reports said there were plans for him to take over information too.

## Buckingham intruder talks about meeting with queen

LONDON (R) — Buckingham Palace intruder Michael Fagan was "more astonished than anybody" to find himself in Queen Elizabeth's bedroom and intended her no harm, he was quoted Friday as saying.

The 32-year-old man was released from a high security mental hospital on Wednesday amid criticism from some Members of Parliament.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher told Parliament she understood the anxiety expressed over the decision by an official mental health tribunal to free Fagan but said the government had no power to intervene.

Fagan, an unemployed Londoner, paid two visits to the palace last summer.

In Friday's Daily Star news-

ing: "I never went into Buckingham Palace to cause distress to her majesty."

"She was very understanding," he said, "and very much in control of the situation."

Celebrating his freedom Thursday, Fagan said: "I'm not a mischief-maker or a nasty villain. I have never hurt anybody."

And he added: "How can you say or do anything nasty to the royal family, let alone her majesty?"

"I mean, she's the queen, a woman who must always be respected. And I'm desperately sorry if I caused her any embarrassment."

"I reckoned I had done the queen a favour by proving how lousy the security system was," said Fagan. "Nobody could deny that."

## Bank sues Groucho Marx's companion for \$1.68 million

LOS ANGELES (R) — A woman companion of the late Groucho Marx tried to make him docile with drugs and used verbal assault, intimidation and gradual mind control to foster his dependence upon her, a lawyer has said.

But a lawyer for the companion, 42-year-old Erin Fleming, said she extended the comedian's career by her management skills and lengthened his life by her constant companionship for seven years. Marx died five years ago at the age of 86.

The Bank of America, administrator of the Marx estate, is suing Miss Fleming for \$1.68 million. The bank alleges she gained \$400,000, two homes, a Mercedes Benz car and syndication rights to his shows by exerting undue influence over him.

The lawyer representing the bank, J. Brian Schulman, told a jury of nine women and three men in the Santa Monica Superior Court in Los Angeles: "The master to wit became in his own home

a frightened old man."

He said Miss Fleming used verbal assault, intimidation and gradual mind control to foster Marx's dependence on her. "He became very afraid of her and believed he would suffer if he failed to comply with her wishes," Mr. Schulman said.

"She was menacing and hurting Groucho with physical domination... confusing him and making him docile by drugs," Mr. Schulman said.

He said Miss Fleming, who was originally hired by the three-times-married Marx as a \$100-a-week secretary, gradually coerced the comedian into giving her complete power over his accounts, lawyers and representatives.

"In this capacity, she was able to control him and his estate," Mr. Schulman said. "She acted to benefit Erin Fleming, whether it be with his money or the property rights she controlled."

## SPD hopeful of surprise win in March elections

DORTMUND, West Germany (R) — West Germany's opposition Social Democratic Party (SPD) believes it could win a surprise victory in the March national elections, helped by public disgust at the way the current government came to power.

Party strategy, agreed at a closed meeting of its executive board last Thursday, will be unveiled at Friday's election congress.

SPD spokesman Wolfgang told reporters the party's chairman and former Chancellor Willy Brandt would present four key factors which it thinks could give it victory.

Mr. Brandt also said the SPD victory in Hamburg, where it won an overall majority, was completely unexpected and marked a turn in the party's fortunes.

He said the SPD was encouraged by what it sees as the Kohl administration's "dithering performance, racked by contradictory statements by the conservatives and their new FDP partners."

Opinion polls forecast the con-

servatives will emerge from the elections as the largest single group, with about 48 per cent of the vote.

But they also show the possibility of the Social Democrats and the emergent radical Greens Party winning enough seats to stop the CDU/CSU from gaining an overall majority.

These are the rising stature of its candidate for chancellor, Hans-Jochen Vogel, public disgust at the way the centre-right coalition government took power, a return of voters' confidence after the SPD's victory in last month's Hamburg state elections, and the "unusually weak performance" of Chancellor Helmut Kohl's government.

Mr. Brandt said the SPD thinks even by the March 6 elections many voters will still be outraged at the ousting of popular SPD Chancellor Helmut Schmidt's government last September.

They joined the conservative alliance of Christian Democrats (CDU) and the Christian Social Union (CSU) to form the new coalition.

## 26 New York cops on trial

NEW YORK (R) — Twenty-six policemen have been ordered to testify before a federal grand jury investigating police corruption in the biggest probe of New York City's force in a decade, informed sources have said.

Investigation and police officials declined to comment on the probe, although they admitted it was taking place.

The news stunned top police officials who had not been aware of the federal probe and had been convinced that widespread police corruption was no longer a major problem here after the work of a special commission in the early 1970s.

## Kentucky man takes divorce too seriously

CENTRAL CITY, Kentucky (R) — Virgil Everhart had cut through the walls and was well into the living room before he stopped on court orders—taking literally his wife's demand for half all he owned as a divorce settlement.

A judge barred him from carrying out his own idea of dividing the property by cutting the house in half with a chainsaw.

Mr. Everhart, 57, sawed through the front hall, the inside walls and living room of his eight-room wooden frame house before the judge Daniel Cornett issued his "stop" order.

"I'll fix it eventually," he said.

## Gromyko's visit to Bonn shows strong Soviet desire for agreement on missiles

By Ralph Boulton  
Reuter

BONN — Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko's visit to Bonn this week highlighted East-West differences on nuclear arms control but also revealed a strong Kremlin desire to reach agreement, diplomatic sources said.

"Gentle but persistent" efforts to woo Chancellor Helmut Kohl's conservative government from its solid backing for Washington were firmly rebuffed, one diplomat said.

But, he added, this did not prevent an unexpectedly frank and detailed discussion on ways of cutting the number of Soviet medium-range rockets targeted on Western Europe.

"One of the most interesting aspects was the complete contrast in atmosphere to the last visit (in 1979). There were no threats this time and no warnings about Western policies, just open discussion," one diplomat said.

"Sincerely interested"

"The Soviets seemed to be sincerely interested in negotiating and in reaching an agreement," he added.

During his last official visit to Bonn, Mr. Gromyko shook his finger grimly as he warned of grave consequences if NATO went ahead with plans to deploy 572 new U.S. "Eurostrategic" missiles if Soviet-U.S. talks reached no agreement.

Some three years later, the autumn deadline for agreement at the Geneva negotiations looms large and the deployment plans are one of the major issues in a bitter campaign for March elec-

tions.

West Germany is due to take 204 of the weapons, including all 108 of the Pershing II missiles which Moscow clearly regards as a particular threat to its security.

The missiles could hit Soviet targets in less than 10 minutes. When Mr. Gromyko addressed a marathon press conference on Tuesday he was markedly restrained, wary perhaps of charges of interference in the election campaign, and he even ventured a lavish sprinkling of humour to lighten the heavy dough of arms control policy.

Amid a welter of criticism of the United States, his most emphatic statement was a categorical rejection of the West's demand that Moscow scrap all its estimated 600 medium-range missiles in

certainly a step forward," one diplomat said.

Mr. Andropov proposed in December reducing the Soviet medium-range arsenal to around 150, to match French and British weapons, if NATO scrapped its deployment plans.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Juergen Moellmann suggested in a radio interview, broadcast just after Mr. Gromyko's departure, that Bonn might be willing to accept an "interim solution" falling short of the zero option.

At the end of the year it is "possible that the talks will have reached only a partial result, that only an interim solution will be possible," he said.

He did not say what an "interim solution" might involve and Chancellor Helmut Kohl has been at pains during the visit to underline his continued commitment to the zero solution.

But Horst Ehmke, a leading member of the opposition Social Democratic Party (SPD), suggested Washington should offer to scrap plans for the Pershing II missiles and half the number of Cruise missiles if Moscow dismantled half of its SS-20 missiles.

The proposal is likely to bring angry criticism from government officials who have accused the SPD of undermining the West's negotiating position and allowing themselves to be used for Soviet propaganda ends.

Andropov's candidate

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Alois Mertes, echoing the sharp tone of inter-party argument over the missiles, described the SPD's candidate for the chancellorship, Hans-Jochen Vogel, as

## NEWS ANALYSIS

return for abandonment of the NATO plans.

"No, that is ruled out. We will in no case accept this zero option. I think those who proposed this variant were not guided by serious intentions," he said.

The veteran foreign minister was less precise about how far Moscow would be prepared to go in destroying missiles as part of a future agreement.

Diplomatic sources said he would not specify in talks whether Soviet Communist chief Yuri Andropov's recent offer to scrap some missiles applied to its modern triple-warheaded SS-20s.

'A steep forward'

"But the fact that they are now talking publicly about physically destroying a number of rockets is

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠KJ84 ♥8-93 ♠AKJ872 ♠AKS  
You right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one heart. What action do you take?

A.—You would like to make a takeout double in an effort to induce partner to bid spades. Unfortunately, he is more likely to respond two diamonds. You would then be forced to bid three clubs, and you are not quite strong enough for that action. Be content with an overcall of two clubs.

Q.2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠AQ9 ♥QJ872 ♠AKJ4-102 ♠AKS  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North Pass 2♥ Pass  
2NT Pass  
What do you bid now?

A.—With club weakness and such good support for partner's suit, it would be wrong to sign off with three no trump. Partner almost surely has a five-card spade suit (with four clubs he would have opened one club; with four hearts he would have rebid two hearts; and he didn't raise diamonds), so you should tell him about your excellent support. Jump to four spades, though three spades is a reasonable alternative since it is forcing on this auction.

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠AQ82 ♥KQJ872 ♠A-♠A6  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1♥ Pass 2♥ Pass  
3♥ Pass?  
What action do you take?

A.—This time you don't want to lose the spade suit, so double — you want to offer partner an inducement to bid a four-card spade suit, if he has one. More than likely, an overcall of three diamonds would end the auction. Don't worry about partner responding to your double in clubs. If he does, you can correct to diamonds at the same level — your hand is good enough for this action.

## Thai army chief dispels coup rumour

BANGKOK (R) — Thailand's army chief went on television to dispel rumours of military coup d'etat by reassuring the country that the army would not interfere with the democratic process or the constitution.

The unusual step by Gen. Arthit Kamlam-ek followed a day of speculation that the army might step in to settle a constitutional dispute which has caused a split between Thailand's political parties and its military.

The armed forces strongly support proposed constitutional amendments which would prevent the military-dominated senate being stripped of its main political powers.

But a parliamentary petition calling for a special session to pass the amendments is still short of the required number of signatures, and when expected support failed to materialise, rumours of army intervention intensified.

Gen. Arthit, appointed three months ago to the country's most powerful military position, said he was resigning from the appointed senate so that he and the armed forces could not be accused of trying to influence parliamentary opinion.

But at the same time he urged people to support a change in the constitution which he said would give them greater freedom of choice and would allow the senate to have equal power with the elected lower assembly.

To change the constitution before general elections due on June 12, 176 Members of Parliament must sign a petition for a recall of both houses. So far, only 173 have signed.

When the Chart Thai Party, a member of Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanonda's ruling mixed military-civilian coalition, failed to add its support to the petition, it became known that Gen. Arthit was concerned and a coup was rumoured.

The general, one of the most controversial army chiefs in recent Thai history because of his open ambition and rapid rise through the ranks, said in his television address that rumours of a coup were unfounded. However, he accused some politicians of corruption and said their activities were a disgrace.

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